Nor Flood Nor Fire Will Stop Us Till We've Won

Nippon Times

Smite Until Our Foes Bend On Their Knees

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JAPANESE TIGHTEN RING AROUND ENEMY IN SINZEIWWA AREA

Foe's Headquarters Admits Attacks of Nippon Units in Arakan Sector Are Furious

RAID ON TAROA REPULSED

Number of Foe's Planes Downed Over Rabaul on February 17 Totals 26

By TAKEMI MURAKAWA
Of the Army Press Corps

FRONT LINE BASE IN BURMA, February 19.—The encirclement campaign now in development in the Sinzeiwwa basin against the British Seventh division has been constantly increasing in fury since February 12. Grim duels have been in progress now for one week. The enemy has been making desperate attempts to find a way out. The expedient of dropping supplies from the air is not working well, and lack of food and ammunition is being increasingly felt. All indications point to a marked decline in the enemy's fighting spirit.

It is the usual tactics of the British to station a large number of tanks and Indian troopers on the foremost firing line so that the pitiable native soldiers may serve as "human shields" for the Britons who forcibly urge their poor victims to fight their battle. Enraged by this inhuman stratagem of the British, more and more native troopers are about to join the Indian National Army to point their guns and bayonets against the atrocious British troops.

Bewildered with this state of affairs, the enemy side is broadcasting false propaganda in emphasizing the crisis of the Arakan firing lines to ease the blow on the anti-Axis public of the inevitable defeat.

On the other hand, the British army also is struggling to recover the downward situation in dispatching hastily the units from the area of Bawlibazar.

Giving no chance to the enemy to make counter-attacks and preparing for any contingency, the Japanese Forces are already making all-out counter measures. The initiative in the Sinzeiwwa area is still in the hands of the Japanese Forces.

Japanese Resistance Strong

Domei

LISBON, February 19.—Anti-Axis forces are encountering severe Japanese attacks at the Ngakuedauk Pass in the Arakan area, the anti-Axis Southeastern Asia headquarters admitted in a communique issued today, according to information from New Delhi.

In the sector east of the Mayu range, anti-Axis infantry troops supported by tank units have been prevented from advancing by Japanese artillery fire, the communique said, adding that severe fighting is going on at the Fukawng valley.

Two Hurricanes Downed

Domei

XX BASE IN BURMA, February 19.—Imperial Army Air Units in Burma on the afternoon of February 18 attacked the enemy troops concentrated at XX village along the upper reaches of XX River in the Arakan area, inflicting heavy damage on hostile troopers, and also shot down two enemy Hurricane fighters after a hot pursuit. All the Japanese planes returned safely.

Enemy Planes Repulsed

Domei

UNDISCLOSED BASE IN THE CENTRAL PACIFIC, February 20.—Japanese Garrison Forces stationed on Taroa Island in the Maloelap atoll of the Marshall group repulsed a total of 11 enemy planes including Vought-Sikorsky TBF's and Consolidated B-24 bombers that attacked the island several times on the morning of February 18, as well as the foe's surface craft that bombarded it. Our damage was slight.

2 Enemy Aircraft Downed
Special to the Nippon Times

UNDISCLOSED BASE IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC, February 20.—A formation of 10 odd small enemy planes attempted a raid on our positions on Yaluit Island in the Marshall Group yesterday. Promptly counter-attacking them, our garrison forces stationed there shot down two of them and repulsed all the other invaders. The damage on the Japa-

(Continued on Page 2 Col. 2)

Education Ministry Appoints Dr. Hozumi Professor Emeritus

Dr. Baron Shigeto Hozumi under date of February 19 was awarded the title of professor emeritus of Tokyo Imperial University by the Education Ministry. Five other scholars, Drs. Yoshio Nakazawa, Mataichiro Onami, Akio Kikuchi, Tamiji Kawamura and Genitsu Kita, were also given the same title.

DEFENSE STRUCTURE STRENGTHENED IN P.I.

Creation of Civilian Protection Administration Epochal Step

Domei

MANILA, February 19.—The self-defense structure of the Philippines against the possible counter-offensive of the enemy, America, has been well-nigh perfected with the recent establishment of the Civilian Protection Administration at Manila and the simultaneous appointment of Jose Paez, member of the Council of State, as its head. The reinforcement of the constabulary and the appointment of Dr. Eusalbio Aguilar as Chief Air Raid Warden of the Philippines have strengthened the structure all the more.

The Japan-Philippine Pact of Alliance provides that the two countries maintain tight cooperation politically, economically and militarily for the successful achievement of the War of Greater East Asia. President Jose P. Laurel in his statement issued in connection with the Pact of Alliance declared that, in case his country was exposed to the danger of invasion, the Philippines would rise in arms against the raiders.

The Philippines thus is, under the circumstances, absorbed in making out the defense setup. Within four months since his assumption of the Presidential post, the Philippines constabulary has been strengthened perceptibly throughout the central and provincial districts. Policemen vigorously trained as Orientals are assigned to their respective posts.

Under a Presidential decree dated February 14 the Civilian Protection Administration was organized with two departments, namely, the Medical First Aid Service and the Air Raid Prevention Service. These two services are established also in towns and villages under the direct supervision of the Civilian Protection Administration. With the cooperation of the Japanese Forces stationed in the Philippines the defense of the Philippines promises to reach a stage of perfection.

OTTAWA ADMITS SINKING OF EMPRESS OF CANADA

Ship Was Torpedoed in March 1943 by Italian Undersea Craft

Special

LISBON, February 19.—After a lapse of almost a year, the Canadian authorities have revealed that the liner Empress of Canada was torpedoed and sunk off Freetown, West Africa, with the loss of about 400 lives, according to a Vancouver dispatch.

The liner was torpedoed by an Italian submarine on the night of March 15, 1943.

The Empress of Canada, a former Pacific liner, was taken over by the British Government at the start of the war.

After the big ship was hit by a torpedo, the wireless operator got off an SOS but it was 17 hours before the survivors were sighted by the Royal Air Force patrol planes and another day and a half before a British destroyer arrived to pick up the survivors.

An Italian communique had reported the sinking of this ship at the time but it was not confirmed by the Canadian authorities till nearly a year afterward.

Strikes Banned in Canada

Special

LISBON, February 19.—Labor strikes in Canada have been legally banned from today under the new dominion labor code, according to an Ottawa dispatch. Lockouts are also prohibited under the code which provides for compulsory collective bargaining and arbitration of disputes in the war industries and other industries of a national character.

GERMANS CONTINUE TO HOLD INITIATIVE IN ITALY WAR ZONES

Gain Additional Ground at Nettuno, Anzio Beachheads; Repulse Enemy Attacks

FOE SUFFERS BIG LOSSES

Heavy Reich Pressure Forces Yanks to Withdraw From Carroceto; Britain Gloomy

Special

BERLIN, February 19.—In the isolated Nettuno and Anzio beachhead, the initiative still remains in German hands.

In the stiff fighting the German troops gained additional ground in the face of considerable Anglo-American resistance, supported by artillery and fighter-bombers.

The Anglo-American counter-attacks made with the support of tanks were repulsed with heavy losses for the enemy. Booty and enemy prisoners have also been taken.

The Anglo-Americans in this sector and in the Cassino sector are employing all their available weapons to an ever increasing extent in order to force the decision and to hold the Nettuno beachhead which now is not more than two and a half square kilometers on the surface.

The heavy German weapons further are deciding the character of the battle of Nettuno. For this reason, the Anglo-Americans brought up more warships in order to increase thus their artillery potential and be in a position to answer with heavy ship artillery the fire of the German guns.

Meanwhile, a dispatch from London, quoting a Reuter report, stated that the American Fifth Army has been withdrawn from Carroceto, Anzio bridgehead.

The withdrawal is attributed to the "tremendous pressure" of the German troops. It was added that the "Germans are keeping up their pressure elsewhere against the perimeter of the anti-Axis beachhead."

The situation at Cassino is stated in the same dispatch to be "obscure."

British Morale Drops

Special

LISBON, February 19.—The morale of the Londoners has dropped by 40 per cent of what it had been, the Daily Express stated today in referring to the wave of pessimism flooding Britain as a result of the Nettuno battle, according to a London dispatch.

The paper, however, expressed its opposition to prophesies about the heavy losses which the anti-Axis will suffer from the formation of the second front. "How could enthusiasm be called forth from the British soldiers by continually referring to losses and endless years of war?" the paper asks.

The journal stated that soldiers going to battle have been put into a most pessimistic mood by such utterances.

Made Wrong Prediction

Special

LISBON, February 19.—A question is raised by the London News Chronicle as to what could have induced General Alexander to shoulder the risk of prophesying to newspaper correspondents that the battle of the Nettuno bridgehead would be won by the anti-Axis, according to a London dispatch.

The paper stated that Alexander could only have been prompted to take this step by a telegram from a very important quarter in London.

Such a telegram could only have been sent by Churchill, the dispatch said, stating that the burning of his bridges and staving of his military reputation could only have been induced by Whitehall.

INDIANS SEEN GRATEFUL

Special

SHONAN, February 19.—The Indian Press Association here has contributed the sum of ¥2,150 to the Japanese Army's war wounded fund, it has been revealed. This sum represents the gross proceeds of the dramatic performance staged under the auspices of the associaiton last Monday.

The director of the association declared that the donation was only a small token of the Indians' gratitude for the gallant part the Japanese Forces are playing in conjunction with the Azad Hind Army for the cause of India's emancipation.

Ministers Ishiwata, Uchida, Goto Determined to Fulfil New Duties

Determination to devote their full efforts to the fulfilment of their new duties was expressed by the three newly appointed Cabinet Ministers in statements to the press following the assumption of their posts on Saturday night.

Sotaro Ishiwata, the new Finance Minister, spoke as follows:

"The financial policy, which was carried out by former Finance Minister Okinori Kaya since the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, will be retained even after my assumption of the post as Finance Minister. I have no intention to adopt a new policy. The present line-up of officials in the Finance Ministry will be left intact, too. I hope to receive the cooperation of the Vice-Minister and of all other officials.

"In view of the fact that the management of the gigantic finances in the present war and the savings drive form the basis of the financial policy of this country, I am determined to propel strongly all the financial policies which were followed hitherto."

Shinya Uchida, the new Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, spoke as follows:

"The problem of foodstuff production is one of the most important issues at the present time. Having accepted the portfolio of the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, I am feeling a heavy responsibility in my new post.

"As regards the production increase for timber and charcoal, I have some ideas of my own, but concerning the food problem and the renovation of the distribution system, I used to study the issue rather from a critical standpoint. Henceforth, concerning the circumstances pertaining to the food problem and the real conditions of the present distribution system, I am determined fully to investigate into the methods followed now.

"I am also resolved to follow a policy of slow improvements, rather than doing things in haste. It is my intention to give full attention to the advices of Hiroya Ino and Tatsunosuke Yamazaki, former Ministers of Agriculture, and other predecessors, in order to plan all measures effectively."

Keita Goto, the new Minister of Transportation and Communications, spoke as follows:

"Having been appointed Minister of Transportation and Communications, I only wish to say that I am resolved to work hard. There is no need to speak about the importance of augmenting the transportation power both on land and sea in the present decisive war situation.

"Through the recent administrative reform, the present Ministry of Transportation and Communications was created. This was followed by the unification of the combined land and sea transportation, and of the warehousing and harbor administration. Needless to say, thereby, a concrete shape was given to the increase in the output of steel and wooden ships and lorries which are all essential for the strengthening of the transportation capacity.

"But another important thing is to infuse life and soul into this system, and thus effectively to expand the transportation service for the purpose of increasing the fighting power of this country. The time has arrived to carry things out, as all discussions have already been concluded, and now I think of nothing but to push ahead along the one right way."

GERMANS AGAIN HIT FOE'S PROPAGANDA

No Reich Troops Were Anywhere Near Abbey of Monte Cassino

Special

BERLIN, February 19.—Competent quarters here again sharply refuted British allegations that the German soldiers had been at Monte Cassino at the beginning of the anti-Axis bombardment of that historic abbey.

In correcting these reports, reference was made here to the news dispatch of the United Press correspondent, James Poper, from Cassino which revealed that "not a single German flak shell exploded in response to the allied bombardment. There was also no fire from the German flak to be observed."

German competent quarters also referred to the statements of the Abbot of Monte Cassino, Bishop Gregorio Diamari, and manager of the Abbey of Monte Cassino, Don Nicole Clementi.

Meanwhile, a Milan dispatch stated that a strong protest against the destruction of Monte Cassino was published by the Archbishop of Milan, Cardinal Schuster, himself a member of the Benedictine order of Monte Cassino, in the paper Italia.

The Cardinal writes that the position of the world famous Abbey as a venerable sanctuary of European culture was such that any average person would have expected the Abbey to be respected by belligerent countries.

The Cardinal pointed out that the responsibility for the wanton destruction of this historic site and sanctuary of western culture must be attributed solely to the Anglo-Americans.

A Lisbon dispatch stated that the paper, Diario de Manha, in commenting on the destruction of Monte Cassino, observes that if the Germans had not saved the library of the famous Abbey, nothing would remain of the latter's treasures accumulated throughout the ages, the greater part of which have now been destroyed by hundreds of bombs dropped within the short space of a few minutes by the anti-Axis.

The paper adds that the offer made by the United States Government to rebuild the monastery could not replace what has been lost. In the paper's opinion, the destruction of the historic Abbey was wholly unjustifiable.

LONDON SUBJECTED TO BIG AIR ATTACK

New Raid Tactics Adopted—Industrial Areas Heavily Bombed

Special

BERLIN, February 19.—Five days after the last previous German air raid on London, German bomber formations again were over the British capital early in the morning hours of Saturday for their fourth major raid.

The ground and air defenses of the British were extraordinarily active and reinforced but neither British nightfighters nor anti-aircraft artillery could prevent German bombers from dropping their missles of every caliber wholesale on previously mapped out targets.

The Germans this time chose new tactics for their raid, attacking from all four cardinal points on the horizon simultaneously.

Despite the defenses, numerous direct bomb hits were scored in the industrial areas.

The question whether these successive raids are a prelude to the coming battle for London or whether they are isolated actions was not answered by competent German quarters.

Meanwhile, a London dispatch stated that the Germans struck their most powerful air blow in months at Britain on Saturday night, causing considerable damage.

2 of 5 Reich Planes Return

Domei

BERLIN, February 19.—Only three Reich planes failed to return from the devastating raid on London early in the morning of February 19, the German military authorities announced tonight. The previous announcement said that five planes had not returned. Two of them, however, have since returned safely.

HONGKONG SEES CEREMONY

2nd Anniversary of Setting Up of Gov't.-General Feted

Domei

HONGKONG, February 20.—A ceremony commemorating the second anniversary of the establishment of the Hongkong Government-General was observed this morning at the new official residence of the Governor-General.

The function was attended by Governor-General Rensuke Isogai, the Supreme Commander of the Army and Navy Forces, and other high military officers and civil officials.

CABINET RESHUFFLE BOLSTERS PROGRAM TO PROSECUTE WAR

Decisive War Structure Perfected With Present Reorganization

MARKS FOURTH CHANGE

Much Is Expected of New Ministers Who Possess Rich Experience

The significance of the present reorganization of the Tojo Cabinet is summed up by the Asahi in the fact that (1) it will insure the setting up of a decisive domestic war structure that will be fitted to military operations in the current stage of the war and (2) that it will spur still further the war-prosecuting zeal of the people on the home front.

Since the convocation of the 84th session of the Imperial Diet, Prime Minister General Hideki Tojo had been thinking of making a change in the Cabinet. Having made up his mind to carry out the plan, the Prime Minister on Saturday night invited Agriculture and Commerce Minister Tatsunosuke Yamazaki, Transportation and Communications Minister Yoshiaki Hatta and Finance Minister Okinori Kaya to his official residence and acquainted them of his desire to tighten the domestic structure, give a new edge to the popular mind and dash into combat action. The Ministers acquiesced and the Cabinet change followed forthwith on the same night.

The assumption of the Agriculture and Commerce portfolio by Shinya Uchida comes as a tonic to the nation, says the Asahi, which expects that the new Minister with his versatility and his rich experience in agricultural administration gained during his Presidency of the Regional Administrative Council in Tohoku district will give a new edge to the domestic food self-supply program.

The appointment of Keita Goto as Transportation and Communications Minister is expected to go a long way toward enhancing wartime traffic capacity. A Cabinet Advisor since November last year, he was appointed administrative inspector of wooden shipbuilding at the end of last year. He has had much experience in the management of private railways.

Sotaro Ishiwata, the new Finance Minister, added greatly to his experience while in China as the highest economic advisor to the Nanking Government. Much is expected of his ability as the man to direct Japan's wartime finance.

The present Cabinet shift is the fourth since the formation of the Tojo Cabinet in October, 1941. The first change was effected in October, 1942 with the creation of the Ministry of Greater East Asiatic Affairs. It involved the resignation of Foreign Minister Shigenori Togo, who was succeeded by Masayuki Tani, former President of the Board of Information, and the appointment of Kazuo Aoki as the Minister of Greater East Asiatic Affairs.

The second reorganization took place in April, 1943, which was featured by the assumption of the Foreign portfolio by Mamoru Shigemitsu, former Ambassador to China, and the entry of Lieutenant-General Kisaburo Ando as State Minister.

The third change was made in October last year in conjunction with the creation of the Ministry of Munitions and the Ministry of Transportation and Communications.

U.S. TO ALASKA HIGHWAY PROVING LARGE LIABILITY

Yearly Maintenance Cost Runs Up to 40 Per Cent of Construction Expense

Special

LISBON, February 18.—The United States to Alaska highway built for war transport purposes at a tremendous expense has proven to be a heavy liability than an asset, the latest issue of the American weekly magazine Newsweek declares, it is reported from New York.

The report quoted the periodical as declaring that the annual maintenance required 40 per cent of the entire construction expenses because long stretches of road sank down into swampy bogs from time to time and numerous bridges were washed out by uncontrollable floods.

New Cabinet Members

Sotaro Ishiwata

Shinya Uchida

Keita Goto

CHANGE IN CABINET HAILED BY NANKING

Hsinking Also Acclaims Reorganization and Pledges Further Cooperation

Domei

NANKING, February 20.—The Nanking Government hails the present reorganization of the Tojo Cabinet, particularly the assumption of the Finance portfolio by Sotaro Ishiwata, which is confidently expected to result in stronger ties of Sino-Japanese cooperation, in general, and an accelerated execution of Japan's new China policy, in particular.

As the highest economic adviser to the National Government since November, 1942, Mr. Ishiwata has rendered material contributions toward laying the foundation of China's wartime economic footing. Principal among his contributions are the suspension of the military scrip issue in Central and South China for the firm establishment of a currency structure, the creation of the National Commerce Association, the enforcement of the system for the Government purchase of cotton yarn and textiles and the recent currency adjustment measures in the Suhwai district.

High expectations are held out in local quarters for his future work.

Step Toward Victory

Domei

HSINKING, February 20.—The Manchoukuo Government is joyous over the reconstruction of the Japanese Cabinet in that this has consolidated Japan's sure victory structure all the more. A stronger set-up of Japan for the annihilation of the United States and Britain thus has been completed, militarily and politically.

Responding to Japan's emergency structure, Manchoukuo has decided to concentrate its efforts on the development of resources and the manufacturing of war materials to help Japan which is leading the war to final victory.

Manchoukuo's vital mission is in the defense of the northern frontier and the increase of agricultural and wartime material production. Now that Japan has made stout its wartime structure more than ever before, the Manchoukuo Government has resolved to bend its energy to the production of iron, coal, alumina, non-ferrous metal and foodstuffs to meet the former's expectations.

THREE SHIFTS MADE IN CABINET BY TOJO ON SATURDAY NIGHT

Economic Adviser to Nanking Sotaro Ishiwata Succeeds Kaya

INVESTITURE RITES HELD

Keita Goto Replaces Hatta—Shinya Uchida to Take Over Yamazaki's Work

In a partial Cabinet reshuffle effected on February 19, Sotaro Ishiwata, Supreme Economic Adviser to the National Government of China at Nanking, was appointed Finance Minister and Shinya Uchida, Governor of Miyagi Prefecture, was made Agriculture and Commerce Minister, while Cabinet Adviser Keita Goto assumed the Transportation and Communications portfolio, according to the announcement issued by the Board of Information at 9:30 p.m. the same day.

The Imperial investitures for the new Ministers were conducted at 9:30 p.m. Saturday, the announcement added.

The Board of Information's statement further revealed that Finance Minister Okinori Kaya, Agriculture and Commerce Minister Tatsunosuke Yamazaki and Transportation and Communications Minister Yoshiaki Hatta who had been relieved of their respective posts were specially granted the privileges of their former posts.

The announcement follows:

"In the Imperial investitures held at 9:30 p.m. today, February 19, the following appointments were made:

"Sotaro Ishiwata, appointed Finance Minister.

"Shinya Uchida, Governor of Miyagi Prefecture, appointed Agriculture and Commerce Minister.

"Keita Goto, appointed Transportation and Communications Minister.

"Finance Minister Okinori Kaya, Agriculture and Commerce Minister Tatsunosuke Yamazaki and Transportation and Communications Minister Yoshiaki Hatta have been relieved of their respective posts at their own requests and have been specially granted the privileges of their former posts."

Profile of Ministers

The new Finance Minister, Sotaro Ishiwata, is a veteran statesman who has a brilliant career.

He assumed the Finance portfolio in the Hiranuma Cabinet in January, 1939, and was then appointed the Chief Secretary of the Cabinet in the Yonai Cabinet.

Later, he was nominated as a member of the House of Peers and successively held the posts of the Secretary-General of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association and the President of the East Asia Economic Association.

He became the Highest Economic Adviser to the Nanking Government in November of the year 1942, which post he has maintained up to the present.

Mr. Ishiwata is a graduate of Tokyo Imperial University. He had been in the service of the Finance Ministry since his graduation up to his appointment as Finance Minister in the Hiranuma Cabinet. He is known as one of the "Big Three" of the Finance Ministry together with Greater East Asiatic Affairs Minister Kazuo Aoki and former Finance Minister Kaya. Of the three statesmen, Mr. Ishiwata has the closest and widest relations with Japan's financial and political circles.

Shinya Uchida, the newly-appointed Agriculture and Commerce Minister, hails from Ibaraki Prefecture and is 65 years old. After graduating from the Tokyo Commercial College, he joined the service of the Mitsui Concern. With the outbreak of the First World War, he launched upon the shipping-charter enterprise and in a few years time, amassed a large fortune. Mr. Uchida ran for the Diet in the general election in 1924 and joined the Seiyukai Party and steadily consolidated his political position. He also held the posts of the Parliamentary Navy Vice-Minister and the Parliamentary Communications Vice-Minister.

In July last year, Mr. Uchida became the Governor of Miyagi Prefecture and concurrently the President of the Regional Administrative Council of the Tohoku District. Much expectation is being placed on his capacity in food production administration.

Mr. Goto who was appointed Transportation and Communications Minister is a reputed authority on

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SEA EAGLES SCORE BIG WIN AT RABAUL

Overwhelming Victory Gained On Jan. 28—63 of 200 Raiding Planes Downed

By HIROSHI MASHITA
Of the Navy Press Corps

RABAUL.—Intercepting a large enemy formation of more than 200 fighter and bomber planes and bringing down 63 of the foe attackers, the fearless and staunch Japanese Sea Eagles at Rabaul again scored an overwhelming victory on January 28. Such an unparalleled achievement is deserving of the highest praise and honor.

Foolishly dreaming of landing on Rabaul, enemy air forces are daily attempting to break through the iron defense of the island in spite of the fact that each time many of the foe fall an easy prey to the Japanese Forces.

Though on January 28 the Japanese base at Rabaul was still shrouded in perfect darkness at 2:30 a.m., the Ground Crew was already busily attending to the aircraft, and the look-out keeping vigilance at the signal station, while telephone operators were faithfully attending to their vital duties. With everyone at the base secretly wondering in what manner the enemy would perform his "regular service" on this day, all preparations were completed.

As the first report from the signal station was closely followed by another report telling of the appearance of some 200 enemy planes in the X X direction, the base became super-charged with tension. The second report was followed by the third, fourth, and fifth, each giving more accurate information concerning the enemy maneuvers. With such tight net of vigilance maintained day and night by the Japanese look-outs, it is no wonder that enemy planes find it practically impossible to steal in.

With his eyes glued to the map spread before him, the Commander remained calm and self-possessed. The compass gripped in his right hand moved slowly and steadily. Every report was minutely recorded on the blackboard by the flight officer and the Unit Commander. Silence reigned over the base while successive reports told of the speedy approach of the enemy. All the airmen were alert, ready to take off at the given signal.

Planes Take to Air

Suddenly, simultaneously with the hoisting of the X flag, the flight officer's order to hop off cut through the clear morning air. At his order the Air Unit commanded by Sub-Lieutenant XX immediately took to the air, one plane after another gliding over the runway, roaring on its way toward its objective. In perfect formation the Japanese fighter planes pierced through the clouds, their silvery wings reflecting the dazzling sunrays. Looking up into the sky, the Ground Crew sent their good luck wishes after their comrades.

All of a sudden the look-out shouted: "Ship-based bombers of the enemy air force are heading for our base!" It became apparent that the enemy forces had the Japanese airfield as their target of attack. With the fierceness of eagles pouncing upon sparrows, the Japanese fighter planes were seen charging right into the enemy formation. They were fully determined to prevent even a single enemy plane from breaking through the net of defense.

Gazing in the direction of the spot where the operation was being waged, the Commander, the flight officer, and others remained outside the barracks. Due to the glittering sunshine and banks of clouds, visibility was blurred. Consequently, those on the ground could not witness the actual progress of the duel, but the roar of engines, the staccato beat of machine-guns, and the thunderous explosions, attested to the death-defying operations being staged in the air.

Violently attacked by the Japanese, the enemy broke his formation, and some of the planes succeeded in slipping through the Japanese defenses. As these enemy planes appeared over the base, all who were not on duty were ordered to rush into the air-raid shelters.

The droning of enemy planes, barking of anti-aircraft guns, bellowing of machine-guns, and deafening sounds of explosions, pierced through the air-raid shelters which shook violently. Those crouching in these shelters were suddenly attacked by a sand-storm.

In the course of the aerial combat, 63 enemy planes were shot down, and the remainder, in utter fear and dismay, took to their heels. The Japanese side suffered the loss of four planes.

After the duel was over, Sub-Lieutenant X X spoke of the victorious campaign as follows:

"As soon as the enemy appeared with his challenge, the X X Unit immediately closed in upon the enemy fighter formation. At the same time another Unit pierced into the enemy ship-based bombers, immediately dispersing them in all directions. Some of these ship-based bombers and B-25's were seen madly heading for the airfield, but they were closely pursued by the Japanese fighter planes. The face-to-face duel ended within ten minutes. Then we began to chase our foe. Being thus so persistently chased and attacked by our planes, the enemy bombers beat a hasty retreat, dropping bombs most wantonly. However, while taking flight, 15 of them were downed."

Requiescat Service Is Held in Shanghai For Adm. Shibazaki

Domei

SHANGHAI, February 20.—Services for consoling the spirit of the late Vice-Admiral Keiji Shibazaki, who as Commander of the fighting forces in the Gilbert group died a glorious death, were solemnized at the Shanghai Shrine this afternoon. The late Vice-Admiral Shibazaki used to be chief-of-staff of the Shanghai Special Landing Party.

Japanese Tighten Ring Around Enemy In Sinzeiwwa Area

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nese side was very slight.

100 Foe Planes Repelled

Domei

RABAUL, February 20.—Japanese Garrison Forces stationed at Kavieng on New Ireland repulsed with severe anti-aircraft gunfire approximately 100 enemy planes including Lockheed P-38's, Consolidated B-24's and North American B-25's that attacked the fortress on the morning of February 16. Our damage was slight.

Two Ships Blasted

Domei

RABAUL, February 20.—Encountering two enemy torpedo-boats on the night of February 16 in the waters north of Shortland Island, small-sized vessels of the Japanese Forces sank one of them and damaged another after a severe combat. Our losses included only a few casualties.

Enemy Vessels Attacked

Domei

UNDISCLOSED BASE IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC, February 20.—Japanese Navy planes on the morning of February 18 intercepted and bombed a group of small-sized enemy vessels off Cape Merkus in New Britain Island and damaged a tug-boat. On the afternoon of the same day, the Navy "Wild Eagles" attacked a hostile convoy off Cape Ward Funt on the northern coast of New Guinea Island and damaged a large-sized transport. Japanese attackers all returned safely.

Total of 26 Planes Bagged

Special to the Nippon Times

UNDISCLOSED BASE IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC, February 20.—The number of anti-Axis aircraft which were shot down in their attempt to attack Rabaul, New Britain Island, on the morning of February 17 now aggregate 26, it became known by later investigation.

In the previous report dated February 19, the figure of enemy planes shot down on the morning of February 17 in a fierce aerial combat with the defenders of the Japanese Forces was reported as 17, including 15 F4F's and two TBF's out of a formation of 143 invading enemy machines. In this fighting, five FBF's, two TBF's and two fighters also were brought down by the accurate anti-aircraft gunfire of our Ground Units, bringing up a total of 26 shot down on the same day. The damage caused to our side on the ground was very slight.

Nanning Airfield Raided

Domei

UNDISCLOSED BASE IN THE EAST CHINA SEA, February 20.—Japanese Navy Air Units, in a surprise attack on the enemy airfield at Nanning, Kwangsi Province, carried out on February 14, shot down two Curtiss P-40's in air duels with hostile planes that challenged them and also carried out intense bombing and machine-gun attacks on the airfield and military installations on the spot, scoring good results.

One of the Japanese planes has failed to return.

Participating Units Bared

Domei

LISBON, February 19.—The United States 22nd Marine and the 106th Infantry Division are participating in the Marshall operations, according to dispatches from Pearl Harbor.

Ten U.S. Ships Launched

Domei

LISBON, February 19.—Ten freight boats were launched at American shipyards on February 18 and 19, according to a Washington dispatch. Seven of them are understood to be 10,500-tonners of the Liberty type.

U.S. ARMY CALLS UP 100,000 STUDENTS

Reasons for Action Is Tempo of Operations and Mounting Casualties

Special

LISBON, February 19.—The United States army began preparations to withdraw over 100,000 soldier-students from colleges and universities by April 1 in order to meet the shortage of 200,000 men in the required army inductions, according to a report from Washington.

The War Department announced that this drastic cut in the army's specialized training program for soldiers enrolled at colleges and universities has been decided upon because of the "increased tempo of offensive operations together with the mounting casualties, demanding immediate replacements in the field." The Army stated that the withdrawal is necessary because it is still 200,000 men short of the goal it should have reached two months ago.

This order which affects more than 200 colleges and universities in the United States is expected to add another burden to these institutions already struggling with reduced incomes.

It was learned, however, that soldier-students enrolled in advanced courses in medicine, dentistry and engineering will be retained in the soldier training setup, thus leaving about 35,000 soldier-students in the colleges and universities.

PIONEER SETTLERS BOOST FARMING IN MANCHOUKUO

Close to Million Acres Cultivated; Production Doubled Compared to Previous Year

Domei

HSINKING, February 17.—Pioneer settlers in Manchoukuo last year brought under cultivation nearly a million acres of land and topped 70 per cent production increase quota by easily reaping a harvest that was nearly double that of the previous year, Makiso Isoko, Director-General of the Manchoukuo Land Cultivation Bureau, declared at the second General Land Development Conference here today.

During last year, some 8,000 youth volunteers came to till the soil in Manchoukuo, he disclosed, adding that at the end of last year there was a total of some 75,000 Japanese families, 20,000 Chosenese families and 42,000 Manchoukuo families working for the development of farm land.

In addition, he said that there were about 75,000 Japanese youth volunteers and 45,000 Japanese members of the Service Corps boosting farm production.

Sonja Henie Killed

Special

LISBON, February 19.—Former skating champion and film star, Sonja Henie, was killed in an accident during a filming of a picture, according to a report from New York. She was born at Oslo in 1910. As a skater, she won three Olympian gold medals, ten world championships and six European championships.

Influenza Afflicts 8,000,000 Britons In 3 Month Period

Domei

LISBON, February 19.—Cases of influenza in England between November, 1943 and January, 1944 totaled 8,000,000, the News Chronicle, reported in its issue today, according to a London dispatch. This means that one out of every four Britons was afflicted with the epidemic, says the London journal, adding that 2,000,000 cases developed into pneumonia and bronchial pneumonia.

FILIPINOS PAY TRIBUTE TO 3 MARTYRED PRIESTS

Religious Rites Held Through-Out Nation Honoring Burgos, Gomez, Zamora

Domei

MANILA, February 17.—The entire Philippine nation this morning paid a tribute to the three martyred priests, Jose Burgos, Mariano Gomez and Jacinto Zamora, who were executed on the garrote 72 years ago, because they had championed Filipino racial vindication.

As the solemn mass was said in all Catholic Churches throughout the nation, President Jose P. Laurel and other high-ranking Filipino officials took part in the observance at the Manila Cathedral with Monsignor Cesar Maria Guerrero, Auxiliary Bishop of Manila, officiating at the holy rites.

Present also at the Cathedral this morning were high-ranking members of the Catholic Church hierarchy and representatives of the Japanese authorities. This is the first time that such a national tribute in the form of solemn religious rites in Catholic Churches throughout the country has been held.

Meanwhile, the journal, Tribune, in an editorial today, pointed out that the martyrdom of Fathers Burgos, Gomez and Zamora inevitably links itself with the present movement to nationalize the Catholic clergy in the Philippines.

"No force on earth, it seems, can stop such a movement, forming as it does part of the inevitable trajectory which all free peoples of the world have accepted along with realization of their freedom," the journal declared.

Badoglio Cabinet Shake-Up

Special

LISBON, February 18.—Some new changes in the composition of the Badoglio regime, whose latest reconstruction occurred in November, was announced by Radio Bari on Thursday night. Pietro Badoglio will retain the posts of premier and foreign minister in the reconstructed cabinet, Vito Reale takes over the post of interior minister and Ettore Casati, justice minister. The post of war minister was taken over by General Orlando.

Canadian Casualties Bared

Domei

LISBON, February 19.—The casualties suffered by the Canadian forces on the Sicily and Italian fronts up to January 8 total 6,334, it has been announced by the Canadian Government, according to an Ottawa dispatch. The figure is distributed as follows: 1,354 killed, 4,665 wounded, 86 taken prisoner and 229 missing.

NEW ECONOMIC ORGAN SET FOR MENGCHIANG

Aims to Bolster War Effort, Gain Industrial Self-Sufficiency for Country

Domei

KALGAN, February 17.—The Federated Autonomous Government of Mengchiang has decided to create a headquarters for the promotion of wartime economic development as a constituent part of the Administrative Council, it was disclosed.

The new economic development headquarters aims at the consolidation of Mengchiang's contributions toward Japan's war effort, it was also revealed.

The present measure, it is believed, is also designed to secure industrial self-sufficiency of Mengchiang by increasing the output of vital products, and the epochal development of the heavy and light industries.

According to current plans, the new headquarters will be divided into seven divisions, namely, mineral deposits development, agricultural products expansion and collection, livestock and its collection, forestry, light industries development, highways and transportation, and labor administration.

It is understood that subordinate organs of the new headquarters will be established within the various Federated States as well as in the special municipalities.

PRICES OF NECESSITIES TO BE FIXED BY NANKING

Commerce, Industry Ministry to Decide Temporary Rates For 17 Commodities

Domei

NANKING, February 18.—In line with its price control program the National Government of China, will shortly organize a committee to be entrusted with the task of fixing official prices on daily necessities.

The committee which will be created by the Commerce and Industry Ministry of the National Government of China will hold deliberations on matters pertaining to official prices which will, in the beginning, be effective in Kiangsu, Anhwei and Chekiang Provinces as well as in Nanking and Shanghai Special Municipalities, it was disclosed.

The committee will try to adjust and unify prices and control measures in various provinces in Central China. Pending organization of the new committee the Commerce and Industry Ministry will fix official prices for 17 items of necessities including rice, flour, meat, salt, coal, candles, tobacco, paper, matches, cotton cloth, raw cotton and medicines.

2 Liberator Bombers Collide

Domei

LISBON, February 19.—Two Liberator bombers collided during a flight near Phoenix, Arizona, and fell after instantaneous explosions, according to New York dispatch from a British news source. All the crew members, numbering 17, were killed, the report adds.

Enemy Cruiser Sunk

Domei

BERLIN, February 19.—An anti-Axis cruiser was sunk instantaneously in Gaeta Bay off the coast of western Italy, it was announced by the German military authorities today.

Three Shifts Made In Cabinet by Tojo On Saturday Night

(Continued from Page 1)

Japan's traffic problems. He was chosen, Adviser to the Cabinet in October last year and has recently been active in administrative inspection of wooden ship building in his capacity as an Administrative Inspector.

Minister Goto entered the Agriculture and Commerce Ministry immediately after his graduation from Tokyo Imperial University and was later transferred to the Railways Ministry. Retiring from official service in 1920, he first joined the Musashino Electric Railway Company and then steadily expanded his business till he became the President of the Toyoko Electric Railways Company, the present Tokyo Express. He also holds the post of Vice-President of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

NORTHWESTERN CHINA DIFFICULT TO DEVELOP

Relations Between Border Inhabitants and Hans Said To Be Bitter

Domei

CANTON, February 19.—The greatest obstacle to the development of the northwestern area of China is the inhabitants in border provinces who are not of the Han tribe, commented the Chungking daily, Sao Tang Pao, revealing the miserable worry of Chungking authorities over the slow progress of the development project.

The paper stated that when the development of the northwestern area is undertaken, the fact that the frontier inhabitants are not on friendly terms with the Hans cannot be ignored. Numerous instances in former days show how they have obstructed the unity of China.

The Chungking regime has been planning the development of northwestern region for a considerably long time, but in view of the fact that the relations between the Hans and the frontier inhabitants have not improved, it is very doubtful whether the latter will welcome the large-scale removal of the Hans to the border areas.

Reich Winter Relief Fund Big

Special

BERLIN, February 19.—The amount of money collected for the winter relief fund in January of this year set a new record, it was announced here. So far, 81,000,000 Reichs marks have been counted. This is an increase of 24.4 per cent over the amount for the corresponding period of last year.

F.D.R. Gets New Secretary

Domei

LISBON, February 19.—The White House announced today that William D. Hasset has been appointed Secretary to the President, it is disclosed in a dispatch from Washington.

U.S. SENATE PASSES BILL TO FINANCE COMMITTEE

Lower House Gets Measure to Appropriate Funds for Post-War Rehabilitation Body

Domei

LISBON, February 17.—The $1,350,000,000 expenditure bill as working fund for the Post-War Rehabilitation Committee was passed by the United States Senate today by a 47 to 14 majority vote and was presented to the Lower House, a Washington dispatch disclosed.

The bill was debated in the Senate for two days and was finally adopted with the rider that the outlay be made before June 30, 1946.

Meanwhile, President Roosevelt today asked Congress to approve the naval budget bill for 1944-5 amounting to $30,700,000,000, and it is expected that the army budget for the fiscal year of 1944-5 will reach close to $18,001,451,840, according to a Washington dispatch.

It is observed here with particular interest that whereas navy appropriations have far exceeded last year's figures, the army budget has dropped remarkably from the 1944 figure of $59,036,297,571.

However, an additional army appropriation bill asking for approximately $3,430,000,000 is now pending in Congress, the report revealed.

Chaplin Trial Continues

Special

LISBON, February 16.—A dispatch from Hollywood said that part of the troubles of Charlie Chaplin, who had been indicted for Mann Act violation, were erased today by the findings of three physicians who made blood tests of the comedian and Joan Barry's baby. The tests showed positively that Chaplin could not be the father of the child. Joan Barry, Chaplin's former "protege," had claimed that he was the father of the infant born last October. By the findings of the doctors, the paternity suit filed by the girl against Chaplin was automatically dismissed. Under an agreement reached last summer and approved by the court Chaplin had agreed to support the girl and pay her medical expenses pending blood tests. Chaplin had been indicted for violation of the Mann Act and was charged with transporting the Barry girl to New York and back to Hollywood for "immoral purposes."

BIG REFORM SLATED FOR CHIANG'S ARMY

To Form Board of Field-Marshals; New Regional Commands, War Zones Set

Domei

CANTON, February 20.—General Chiang Kai-shek has decided to carry out an epochal reform of the Chungking military structure to cope with the development of the war situation, it is reported. According to the plan, Chiang will abolish the Defense High Commission and create a Board of Field-Marshals. For this purpose, he will appoint nine men.

Four new regional commands will also be established. The first is the Tiensui Command to be headed by General Ho Ying-chin; of General Ku Shu-tung; the second is the Chengtu Command to be headed by General Li Tsung-jen, which will have the task of carrying on the anti-Japanese operation along the Yangtze River; the third is the Kunming Command to be headed by General Chen Cheng, which will concentrate on the campaign against Burma; and the fourth is the Kweilin Command to be headed by General Chang Fa-kwei.

Moreover, all the present war zones will be readjusted into three army districts, and one expeditionary force will be created. The first is the Northwestern Army District involving Shantung, Shansi, Hopei, Shensi and Suiyuan provinces, to be commanded by General Yen Hsi-shan. The second is the Central Army District embracing Kiangsi, Anhwei, Chekiang, Hupeh and Honan provinces, to be commanded by General Li Tsung-jen. The third is the Southwestern District comprising Kwangtung, Hunan, Kweichow and Kwangsi provinces, to be commanded by General Chang Fa-kwei. The Burma Expeditionary Forces will be commanded by General Wei Li-hwang.

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NORTHERN GARRISON TIGHTENS DEFENSES

Repulsed U.S. Raiders in Abortive Raids on North Chishima On Dec. 21, New Year's Day

Domei

UNDISCLOSED BASE IN NORTH CHISHIMA.—"They come, we fight, we'll beat 'em" is the motto with which our garrison here is steadily consolidating the defenses of the northern frontier in view of the feverish activities of the United States to strengthen her bases in the Northeastern Pacific in an endeavor to carry out an all-out invasion of North Chishima via Alaska and the Aleutian Islands.

Late at night on December 21 and before daybreak on New Year's Day, enemy planes crossed over the Attu Island and came attacking our position here. On both occasions, however, the Americans flew at high altitudes and merely dropped flare bombs.

Our anti-aircraft force, which had been expecting just such an attempt, at once caught the enemy planes with its cross-beams of searchlights and subjected them to terrific anti-aircraft bombardment.

Panic-stricken, the enemy fled in disorder. Not the slightest damage was sustained on our side. It was observed here that such attempts on the part of the enemy only served to afford us good dress rehearsals in night air defense operations.

Subsequently, however, Washington broadcasts said: "It is easy to bomb North Chishima in the Japanese archipelago at night," which shows that the attempts were aimed partly at nerve warfare and partly at preliminary reconnaissance over the areas through which the Americans were planning to fly in their nocturnal air raid.

It is believed certain that President Roosevelt, fearing lest Japan's fighting strength should grow too formidable with time, is seeking to make a decisive throw before the Presidential election in the fall and to strike at the northeastern corner of our far-flung defense line in view of the strategic importance attached in the American popular imagination to North Chishima.

It is common knowledge that there are three seasons most favorable to such air raids as the Americans are no doubt contemplating. The first is the April-May thawing season, then the May-June or August-September season in which they can use their aircraft and naval power with the greatest effect and finally the late fall foggy season suitable for surprise attacks.

The weather conditions over North Chishima are, on the whole, regarded as similar to those over the Aleutians but the fact is that weather conditions over the two areas day by day are generally diametrically opposite. For instance, when it is snowing in North Chishima, the sky over the Aleutians is clear. The American on Attu Island are reported to have completed large-scale airdromes and piers to enable night take-offs and mooring of large vessels to be made. If, thus, Attu is made the base of operations, Consolidated bombers can come attacking in three or four hours, while aircraft carriers will find it best to strike at dawn or dusk.

Meanwhile, we have consolidated our defenses on the northern frontier with redoubled energy, as stated by the War and Navy Ministers in the Diet. The officers and men on the firing lines have adopted as their motto: "They come, we fight, we'll beat 'em."

China's Role in East Asia

(Continued from Page 4)

ing its various disadvantages as a port, therefore, it must be so improved that it can serve a useful purpose for the development of East Asia.

Means of Communication Important

The large-scale construction of means of communication such as has been described is necessary if China is to play its part creditably, and Japan is bound in duty to give every assistance to China in this regard. The provision of better means of communication is a pre-requisite for the industrial development of the country, and in order to provide communications facilities on an adequate scale, it is essential that a well-developed heavy industry is available. China lacks this important pre-requisite. Inasmuch as Japan is the only country in Greater East Asia with a highly developed heavy industry, it behooves her to do everything in her power to aid China in the construction of the necessary means of communication.

With Japan's valuable help, China must carry out this construction work speedily, so that she can play successfully the important role assigned to her in the defense of Greater East Asia and in the building up of industry and culture.

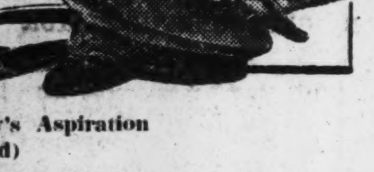
That it is incumbent on China to play an important role in the industrial construction of East Asia is obvious from her enormous natural resources and her vast man-power. With Japan's aid China can achieve her industrial reconstruction. Her attention must be directed to the building up not only of light industry but of heavy industry also so that she may fulfill her share of duty in respect to the defense of East Asia. It is not in the industrial field only, of course, that China can contribute toward the construction of Greater East Asia. She can make a very valuable contribution in the way of the supply of raw materials and labor power too.

The basic condition for China's successful fulfilment of her function and duty in East Asia is that her people, as a whole, should become awakened to their true position in East Asia. Inasmuch as President Wang Ching-wei is in every way the right man to lead them, China must be unified under his leadership. China must be completely disillusioned. She must rise above narrow-minded nationalism, and must cultivate the closest friendship with Japan. It may take time to accomplish this, but the time will surely come when this will be done, for, as President Wang Ching-wei declared, in a speech delivered on the occasion of the celebration of the signing of the Sino-Japanese Pact of Alliance on October 30 last year, this pact has made it abundantly clear that Chungking's continued resistance adds only to the distress of the Chinese people. In pursuance of the object and spirit of this Pact of Alliance, China must earnestly strive to forge close ties of friendship with Japan. This is, indeed, the only way for that country to play her part in East Asia successfully.

THE NAVY

By TOYOO IWATA

(Translated by Kumiko Takagi)



Part III: The Boy's Aspiration (Continued)

SYNOPSIS

Masato Tani is the leading character in this stirring story of the Japanese Navy. Past instalments covered the formative period of his life at home and school. Last week we read that at the age of 16, Masato had decided that his ambition was to serve the nation in the Imperial Forces.

Looking back at the Anglo-Satsumas War, it seems that this fighting was an incubator for many great, illustrious generals. Oyama, Kawamura, Nozu, Saigo, Togo, Ito and Inoue were all distinguished Marshals or Fleet Admirals; all were of the Navy excepting three of them. Moreover, those who later rendered great services to the Imperial Navy, as Kageaki Nire, Genroku Akatsuka, Kanehiro Ishuin also had taken part in this war. There was also Admiral Gonbei Yamamoto, who was only twelve years of age at that time. As he was too young to operate any battery, he worked hard carrying cannon shells to the batteries. It also seems that this Anglo-Satsuma war not only gave a great incentive to the people of the Satsuma clan but also greatly stirred the Imperial Navy as a whole.

The British fleet, in the meantime, retreated to the offing "konedome" and after making necessary repairs, sailed back to Yokohama. Thus ended the war.

The casualties suffered by both sides were unexpectedly small. There were thirteen killed and fifty wounded on the British side and one killed and six wounded on the Satsuma side. Considering from this result Satsuma seemed to have won a complete victory over the British. However, as a matter of fact, it did not. Every battery and arsenal Shunikan was badly damaged. Three merchant steamships which were considered their treasures were also destroyed.

All in all, the war ended in defeat for both sides. In the battle between warships and batteries, Satsuma should have had an advantage over the enemy, but they were overwhelmed by a fallacious notion. They were led to believe that the strength of the British warships and ordnance were far superior to theirs and felt a kind of inferiority complex before the might of the English warship of 2,300 tons of eleven knots, and of the Armstrong cannon which had the power to fire conical cannon shells at great distances.

Masato closed the book which he had just finished reading and looked out through the window.

The reading-room in the library usually commanded a fine view. However on that day, the dark, cloudy sky sent large rain drops to the earth, making things gloomy. The big willow tree standing outside looked as if an insane woman with dishevelled hair was writhing herself in great agony.

Sakurajima, covered with dark clouds, looked unusually ghastly. Okinokojima could be seen faintly in the distance. The roofs of the houses in Temposan, Demonguchi, Bentenhatoba and Gion-nosu, where the batteries had stood, were all obscured by rain and looked as though they were standing in smouldering fire.

Masato gazed at these scenes as if he had seen them for the first time. The weather was just like that of the first day of the Anglo-Satsuma war eighty years ago. The same scenery, as seen with knowledge of its history, and with an indifferent mind, seems to be altogether different. It was surprising how the scene which had been so familiar to Masato for the past sixteen years seemed so new to him now.

As it was written in the book, his native land had writhed in agony during the war. Old fogeys had scornfully talked of Lord Nariakira Shimazu (1809-1858) as "Dutchified" for using the enemy designed shells. Those people used the Japanese matchlocks again after Lord Nariakira's death. But now they could not help admitting to themselves that these old matchlocks always became useless in the rain. Moreover, the effectiveness of the round cannon balls of Japan was far inferior to that of the English conical cannon shells. Besides, one could never tell when the English would invade again. Then what would happen?

Just at that critical moment, the heads of Satsuma, not being bound by pride or temper, suddenly shook hands with the English and peace was restored once again. This unexpected action of the Satsuma men was thought to have been very respectable and chivalrous. It did not mean that they had given in to the English. It was in order to study under the English people their science of war which far excelled that of Satsuma. The negotiation for peace between England and Satsuma was immediately concluded because of the necessity on the side of the English to check the strength of France. This fact was also written in the book.

In the third year of Keio (1867), the "Princess Royal" and two other warships entered Kagoshima harbor. On board were Commodore King and Minister Parks. The battery of Satsuma fired again, but this time it was a gun salute. The reception which was held for the visitors by the Lord was one of the most gorgeous ever held. More than forty different dishes, besides champagne and beer, were served. The English guests are said to have eaten only the chicken and pork leaving the rest, untouched; the champagne and beer also seemed to be their favorite. Champagne and beer during those days!

Later the Satsuma leaders, as a courtesy demonstrated the field-gun invented by Naosuke Nakahara.

Nakahara made his appearance wearing a hakama and a black woolen overcoat with a red lining. After bowing to the Lord, he commanded the six field-guns to be fired. And, lo! Every gun hit the center of the target out in the offing. The visitors could not but spontaneously applaud.

Such was the spirit of Masato's ancestors. Even though they adopted the English method in the Army and Navy and dispatched students to England to study, the Japanese spirit had never left them. Later the authorities of the Marine Training School (Kaigun Denshujo), established by the Tokugawa Regime, hired English teachers.

Masato recalled what Takao had said: "The Mutsu and the Nagato are the largest and the strongest warships in the world." Masato again gazed out at the gloomy sight and pondered.

"Decision is important . . . ." thought Masato.

The resolute action of the naval leaders of Satsuma and Yedo in taking up the English style and ways in their naval system brought a glorious prosperity to the country one hundred years later. Masato was deeply impressed with this fact and reality, but on the other hand he was really ashamed of himself, for being so slow in his decision.

"I'm still undecided—which shall it be, the army or the navy?" Although he had made up his mind to enter the armed services, he had not yet made up his mind as to which branch of the armed forces he should enter.

"Well, I must decide today by all means."

He could not idle his days away. He was old enough to think of his future. In the book it was written that Fleet Admiral Togo had set out upon his first campaign at the age of seventeen. . . .

Masato returned the book he had read to the librarian, and stalked out of the room with his shoulders high. At the entrance of the library Masato was hailed by a voice. It was Ozaki, one of his class-mates.

"Have you been in the library, too, Tani?"

"Yes, . . . but, what are you doing here?"

"I did not bring an umbrella with me, and it's raining hard."

"Then, come in under my umbrella. Let's go together." Masato, who was always cautious, carried an umbrella with him.

In the violent rain and wind, the two boys walked together in the direction of the Terukuni shrine and Temmonkan street.

"It's terrible!"

Both of them were drenched to the skin already. Ozaki had rolled his pant legs up to his knees. Masato, however, walked on elatedly without casting even a glance at the surroundings. He had forgotten the wind and the rain.

"Mr. Naosuke Nakahara was a Satsuma-born man and he died here too; Akatsuka, Ito, Nire, Kawamura, Kabayama, Yamamoto and Togo, those great personages were all from Kagoshima."

"Tani, where are you going?"

Ozaki asked Masato, who had already arrived at the Temmonkan street car line and yet was walking on with the same stride. If they took the street-car, they could ride the rest of the way home.

At last Masato realized that he was day-dreaming, and looked about for the first time and realized how terrible the storm was. From the gloomy sky the strong rain, peculiar to Satsuma, was pouring down on the paved road. The wind was so strong that as it passed the electric wires it made hysterical whistling sounds. Everything reminded him of the first day of the Anglo-Satsuma War.

"Ozaki, let's walk—Let's not take the street-car."

Masato resolutely began to walk along the street.

Apparently, just then a certain thought came into his mind—a new marker in his life. But Ozaki, knowing nothing, followed Masato discontentedly.

The Past Week in Review

Fierce Battle Waging In Truk Islands

Furious fighting is now going on in the Truk Islands area between Imperial Army and Navy Units and a powerful enemy task force which has been attacking the islands repeatedly since the morning of February 17 with its planes, according to a communique issued by the Imperial Headquarters on February 18.

For 20 days since the enemy thrust into the Marshall Group, our defense garrisons there have been putting up a gallant fight and are continuing to hold their defense areas tight.

Now the enemy has stretched his counter-drive attempt to the Truk Islands, the heart of the Inner South Seas. On the morning of February 17, a powerful enemy task force came attacking the islands and kept up repeated intense bombing with deck planes until the morning of February 18, the participating foe craft aggregating several hundred. The Japanese Army and Navy Units in that area are now engaged in a fierce battle with the invading foe.

Foe Near Mayu Is Facing Doom

Annihilation or surrender is now only a question of time for the main body of the seventh division of the British army, numbering X thousand troops, which, after having been completely cut off from their routes of retreat, have been driven into a tight corner at X X basin, east of the Mayu Mountain Range.

Fully equipped with medium caliber firearms, armored cars, and trucks, the British troops are now attempting to put up a desperate and final resistance against the Japanese Forces.

Since February 12, the crack units of the Japanese Forces, including the Kato, Hoshi, Matsukidaira, Doi and Matsuo Units have been engaged in a grand annihilative operation in close cooperation with our Army Air Forces, and are now increasing their pressure at every moment on the death-struggling enemy troops who are desperately attempting counter attacks, and whose annihilation or surrender is nearly a question of time.

Naval Aces Hit Enemy Destroyer in S. Pacific

Japanese Naval Air Units damaged an anti-Axis destroyer and two transports in the South Pacific area. Also heavy damage was inflicted on the enemy ground positions on Arawe Island and the Tuluve area on New Britain Island on the morning of February 14.

At dawn of February 14, the Naval Wild Eagles caught up with an enemy convoy in the waters near Cape Krechin, New Guinea Island, and, furiously attacking it, damaged a destroyer and a transport.

In an assault on a group of the enemy convoy in the Borgen Bay area, New Britain Island, a unit of our Sea Eagles blasted and heavily damaged a large enemy transport. Another formation of the Japanese Naval Air Units attacked the enemy group positions on Arawe Island and in the area of Tuluve on New Brittain Island and furiously blasted their targets. Achieving these triumphant war results, all the Japanese planes returned to their bases safely.

22 Foe Planes Downed At New Guinea

With furious fighting continuing in New Guinea, Japanese Army Air Units have been carrying on effective action in sweeps against the enemy raids. On February 13, they raided Cape Gumbi and the enemy airfield at Madzab and dealt heavy damage to the enemy.

On February 14, they intercepted enemy aircraft raiding Wewak and Butts and shot down 22 of them. On this day at about 9 a.m. a formation of about 90 enemy planes, consisting of B-26's, P-40's and P-47's came over. Japanese air and ground units fought them effectively and four P-40's and four B-26's, a total of eight enemy aircraft were knocked down in air fighting. Anti-aircraft fire accounted for 13 B-26's and one P-40, making the aggregate blasted out of the sky by air action and anti-aircraft fire 22.

Honors Issued to 125 Naval Heroes

For outstanding services to their country and exceptional gallantry in action, Special Distinction Honors had been posthumously awarded to 125 officers and non-commissioned officers of the Imperial Navy, including Rear-Admiral Yusuke Yamada, commander of the destroyer flotilla, four native inhabitants of Taiwan and five seamen, in the 14th War of Greater East Asia Naval Posthumous Award and the 33rd China Affair conferment of posthumous honors, it was announced by the Navy Ministry and the Board of Decorations on February 17.

It was also announced by the Navy Ministry and the Board of Decorations on February 14 that ten fallen heroes of the Imperial Japanese Navy Air Force, including Lieutenant-Commander Juji Murata and Special Service Flight Second Class Sub-Lieutenant Kazutoshi Fukuyama, were promoted two ranks and awarded Shukunko, or Special Distinction Honors for outstanding services in the War of Greater East Asia.

Maltreatment of Yanks Refuted by Iguchi

The allegation reportedly made by Breckinridge Long, United States Assistant Secretary of State, that several thousand American citizens held by the Japanese in the Orient were facing death through malnutrition was blasted as completely groundless by Sadao Iguchi, Spokesman of the Board of Information, at a press conference for foreign correspondents held on February 18.

Pointing out that a detailed report made by Max Pestalozzi, representative in Japan of the International Red Cross Committee, had shown clearly that the Japanese treatment of the American and other prisoners of war was excellent, Mr. Iguchi stated that Long's statement was merely a continuation of the enemy's atrocity campaign which could fool nobody.

Shonan Fetes 2nd Year Of Singapore Fall

An impressive ceremony commemorating the second anniversary of the capture of Singapore was held at the large square in front of the Shonan Special Municipality on February 15. The function was jointly sponsored by the military and civil authorities and the people. A large crowd of about 30,000 people, representing the Malai Rehabilitation Association, the Arab Society, the Eurasian Club, and the Indian Independence League as well as school children and others attended.

Such a large gathering has not been witnessed since the fall of Singapore. All the attendants bowed toward the Imperial Palace in Tokyo and silently offered prayers of thanks to the Japanese fighting men on the first front and to the souls of those fallen in the battles of Singapore.

Kwanichi Naito, Mayor of the Shonan Special Municipality, read a congratulatory message for the occasion. Following him several persons also read messages. Representatives of various races read an oath to cooperate with the Japanese for the construction of a new order in Greater East Asia.

Rift Seen Between Britain and Chungking

The rift between Britain and Chungking continues to widen every day and this is being clearly revealed by the fact that both forces are trying to ward off the Japanese attacks in the Indo-Burma border area at the sacrifice of the other—a clear manifestation of lack of military coordination, say well-informed observers here.

They pointed to the reports that the British authorities had openly criticized the "inefficiency" of the Chungking forces. The observers said that when about 2,000 Chungking troops which with their commander, Lo Cho-ying had fled into India, they were treated by the British authorities like prisoners. Those Chungking troops were disarmed and interned in a suburban prisoners camp.

It was said that probably as a measure to remedy this situation, Chiang Kai-shek appointed Lo Cho-ying, commander of the Chungking forces stationed in India, and reorganized the remnants under his command, but the British authorities neglected even to extend any assistance.

Pravda Again Raps Exiled Pole Regime

Under big-type headlines, Pravda, official Soviet organ, published, on February 12, an unsigned article censuring the Polish government in exile at London in terms more stringent than any used by the Soviet press so far, according to Harold King, Reuter correspondent at Moscow.

The article accused the Poles of collaborating with the Germans and asserted that "yesterday and always the Polish government in exile has considered the Soviet Union its enemy."

The fresh, bitter attack on the Polish government by the Soviet journal is regarded by quarters in London as the possible forerunner of the Moscow move to set up a Kremlin-sponsored government for Poland unless the Polish government in exile acts quickly to divest itself of certain members deemed by the Soviets as unfriendly.

The Pravda declared that the Soviets will not wait for the movement when the Poles in London "stand on their feet instead of their heads and see things as they really are."

Willkie Will Run For U.S. President

Wendell Willkie, unsuccessful Republican presidential candidate in 1940, formally announced on February 14 his intention to try to run for president in the coming election, it is reported from Portland, Oregon, where he is sojourning at present. The report quoted Willkie as bragging, "I will fight in every state in the union."

Already campaigning for a Democratic victory at the coming election, Senator Harry Truman, in a Jackson Day dinner speech, said that a Democratic defeat at the polls this year would "hamper, delay and confuse the conduct of the war and imperil peace," a report from Jacksonville said.

During his speech Truman also hit the way the United States acted after the last war, saying that its refusal to join the League of Nations was a big mistake.

Tacitly admitting that this war was not being fought for anything other than increased power, Truman declared that "that this war is a continuation of the one fought in 1917-18."

British Pilots Training in U.S.

Domei

LISBON, February 18.—Numerous British pilots are now in the United States receiving special training to handle the United States super 7½-ton dive bomber, Curtiss "Hell Diver", according to a special New York report to the Daily Express, London, on February 12.

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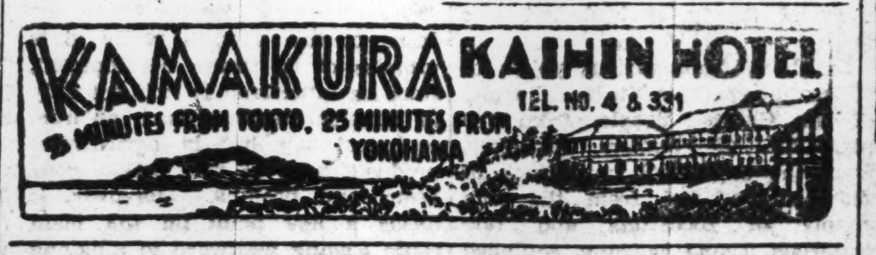

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TOKYO, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1944

A Broadened and Strengthened Cabinet

The shifts in three Cabinet posts, announced late Saturday night, have already aroused the acclaim of the general public. The statement from official quarters that the move is designed still further to strengthen the internal structure of the nation is well borne out by the character of the new appointees.

Sotaro Ishiwata, the new Minister of Finance, evokes universal confidence. His long experience as an official in the Finance Ministry attests to his unexcelled technical competence. His record as Finance Minister in the Hiranuma Cabinet and as Chief Cabinet Secretary at the time of the Yonai Cabinet marks him as an outstanding figure in the field of higher administration. His recent services as Supreme Economic Adviser to the National Government of China demonstrate his genius for constructive statesmanship on an international scale. And finally, his work in the House of Peers and as Secretary-General of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association assures his intimate understanding and accord with the current of popular opinion throughout the nation at large. Although his basic financial policy will undoubtedly show no departure from the sound and wise policy of his predecessor, Okinori Kaya, Finance Minister Ishiwata will bring to the Government the added contribution of his ability to facilitate augmented economic collaboration with China and to intensify popular cooperation among all sections of the public, both of which will be increasingly valuable in relation to the current trend of the wartime situation.

Particular attention and high expectations center upon Shinya Uchida, the new Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, who possesses a combination of many talents. As a business man, first with the widespread Mitsui interests and later as an independent shipping magnate, he gained great fame and fortune. Then as an influential member of the Diet, as Parliamentary Vice-Minister of the Navy and of Communications in two Cabinets, and as a party organizer he distinguished himself as a political figure of the first rank. Then as Minister of Railways he demonstrated his ability as an administrator. So valuable were his political and administrative talents that he served such Prime Ministers as Prince Konoye and Admiral Okada as an intimate confidant during their terms of office. Most recently, as Governor of Miyagi Prefecture and Chairman of the Tohoku Regional Council, the brilliant results he has been securing in increasing wartime productive efficiency in the areas under his jurisdiction have marked him out as an outstanding executive. That a man of his versatile talents, broad comprehension of general conditions, and proved ability to produce tangible results is to assume responsibility over the vital task of providing for the security of livelihood of the people, particularly in the field of foodstuffs and daily necessities, arouses universal confidence and high hopes.

Similarly equipped with demonstrated ability is Keita Goto, the new Minister of Transportation and Communications. With his rich background of experience as an official in the Ministries of Agriculture and Commerce and of Railways, with his distinguished record as an organizer and promoter of rapid transit electric railways, with his trusted position in industrial circles as Vice-President of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce, and more recently as Cabinet Adviser, he is in a position to render to the Government an invaluable contribution. His expert knowledge of the problem of transportation and his recent activities in promoting the extension of shipbuilding activities make him a particularly important figure at this time when transportation is playing such a strategic role in wartime activities of the nation.

The readiness with which the Tojo Government has been willing to make Cabinet shifts evidences a flexibility and progressiveness which is essential in wartime. No narrow official exclusiveness, no static inability to adapt itself to changing conditions stultifies this Administration. Each of the four personnel shifts which have already taken place in the Tojo Cabinet has successively broadened and strengthened the Government. The latest shift has, by bringing in men of wide political connections and proven practical ability, demonstrated anew the solid strength of the Government which commands the united support of all sections of the many-sided and versatile nation.

Payment in Land Bases

Power-maddened, megalomaniac leaders of the United States have once again come out with a brash, peremptory scheme to wipe out the independent existence of all nations on earth. Their scheme envisions the complete, total subjugation of the world with the mailed fist, nations terrorized into prostrate submission by bombs dropped from the skies, terrified people made to hovel and cringe before the grim specter of the cold-blooded, heartless world master.

That is the gruesome, diabolical picture of the world which is being conceived in the minds of power-sotted men close to President Franklin Roosevelt. According to a Wall Street Journal report carried by the Reuter News Agency on February 14, a group of men whose influence is rapidly growing within the Roosevelt Administration is now demanding that the Lend-Lease deliveries made by the United States to the various anti-Axis nations must be paid, not in gold, but in land bases and raw materials. In land bases because the United States troops and aircraft stationed there can quickly bash any opposition to the march of American imperialism. In raw materials because, if strategic, they would be invaluable in the production of lethal weapons of destruction to blow out the heads of recalcitrant, unsubmissive people and because, if economic, they can be manufactured and then dumped, with a profit, on the markets of unwilling nations. And not in gold because the vaults in the mountains of Kentucky are glutted with this metal which forms the most serious threat to the economy of the United States which already is in the throes of an uncontrollable inflation. Not in gold because that metal alone can never guarantee for the United States absolute world domination, for nations today, drained of their gold supply, can still operate their economic machinery on a managed currency system and through their economic innovations.

This is by no means the only method by which the United States would assert her aggressive control over the world. Robert McCormick, publisher of the Chicago Tribune, would secure world mastery for the United States by the retention of all the air bases built by the American forces throughout the various countries of the world during the course of the current war. The operation of a vast oil refinery in Saudi Arabia, with an oil pipe line extending from the Persian Gulf to the Mediterranean, is a more naked American imperialistic undertaking to place at least all of Western Asia and a part of the Mediterranean coastline within the steel grips of the United States Government. The establishment of Itava Incorporated, capitalized jointly by the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey and the Socony-Vacuum Incorporated, to supply aviation refueling service to every land base taken over by the United States throughout the world in the present war, as reported in a New York dispatch on February 17, is another link in the chain of grandiose projects to make the United States the scourge and terror of six continents.

Need more tangible proof be given that the United States is not fighting for the creation of a world free from want or fear! Need more evidence be advanced to show that the United States is selfishly pursuing a policy which will end only in her prosperity and in the impoverishment of all others! The circles close to Roosevelt who are urging the United States Government to demand a voice in the distribution of the world's raw materials and participation in the international control of certain colonies, also in return for Lend-Lease goods, are seeking only to batten the United States at the expense of the sweat, blood, toil and tears of other nations. Their black, bludgeoning undertakings are threats to the very existence of humankind. How can there be a compromise with such a brutal, half-demented country? No wonder Don Iddon, in commenting in the Daily Mail on the report regarding the method of Lend-Lease payments which would obviously include the cession of British islands loaned to the United States in exchange for fifty United States destroyers, tremulously warns the British people that even if the American demands for bases, raw materials and greater economic privileges were sent up as a trial balloon, "it would be wrong to simply put them aside as ridiculous."

China's Role in East Asia

Nation Fully Equipped to Make Vital Contributions to Defense, Industry and Culture

By KATSUMI MORITANI
Professor of Keijo Imperial University
(From the Gaiko Hyoron)

It is superfluous to say that in order that China may fulfil her role in East Asia successfully, it is imperative that the Chungking administration should be completely disillusioned of its present false and futile attitude of resistance against Japan and that the unification of China should thus be speedily effected. And it is to be hoped that seeing that the foundations for China's perfect independence have been laid solidly with Japan's assistance, the unification of the country will be achieved before long, for it has been made abundantly clear that continued resistance against Japan is not only meaningless but positively harmful to China.

In the event of the consummation of China's unification and of the awakening of the Chinese people generally to their position as an Asiatic nation, it is fully to be expected that China will make a valuable contribution toward the reconstruction of Greater East Asia. This can easily be gathered both from the fact that China has often in the past contributed to the cultural progress of the world and from her enormous human resources, her very extensive territory and her variegated and rich natural resources.

Has Produced Philosophers

The Chinese people are by no means deficient in creating capacity in cultural matters, nor has China been a barren country culturally, as can be proved by many historical facts. China has produced many distinguished strategists, philosophers, etc. In the field of inventions also, she has done much. Silk fabrics, paper, magnet, etc. were invented by Chinese in very ancient times, and more recently they invented gunpowder, porcelain, etc. and introduced them into the West. All this testifies amply to the fact that China has contributed materially to the cultural progress of the world and that her people are by no means lacking in cultural traits.

China boasts a population of over 400,000,000, and her people are industrious by nature. She is one of the most favored countries in the supply of labor, and it is hardly necessary to say that she can make a valuable contribution toward the progress of the world through the utilization of these plentiful labor resources.

Strategically also, China holds a very important position. She is contiguous to the Soviet Union on a border extending for a considerable distance. On the western side, she is in propinquity to India. The bare thought of Soviet influence in Outer Mongolia and in Sinkiang and of British ambitious designs on Tibet will be enough to convince the observer of the fact that China holds a very important position strategically.

China is rich in foodstuffs and raw materials. With regard to the staple foodstuffs, it is true that the country has not been quite self-supporting. She has had to make good some shortage in this respect by imports. In many other classes of foodstuffs, however, she has an over supply. Moreover, ample room is left for the increased production of foodstuffs. At any rate, it may be said that China is in a position to render valuable help to the food economy of Greater East Asia in the supply of foodstuffs.

Prospects Heightened

Concerning the supply of raw materials also, China richly deserves the name of a treasure-house for East Asia. As investigations into natural resources progress, the prospects of China as the supplier of raw materials will be heightened exceedingly. American and British people underrate China's natural resources and refuse to recognize the bright prospect of the country's industrial progress. This attitude is attributable to their deliberate attempt to dampen China's hopes for her industrial future.

China has very rich hydraulic and coal resources which still largely remain to be exploited. Her iron resources so far ascertained may not be very plentiful, but it is said that the iron deposits in the northwestern part of Hopeh Province and in Mengchiang as well as in the districts on the Yangtze are enormous. It is also well known that China is rich in tungsten, tin and salt. She has a plentiful supply of lead and zinc too.

In short, from various points of view, that is, from the racial traits of the Chinese people, from the plenitude of human resources, from the strategical importance of the country, and from the rich supply of foodstuffs and raw materials, China is fully equipped to play a very important part in East Asia. The only thing wanting is that China has not yet put herself into a state quite fit for the successful performance of her part.

To Play Vital Role

China is to play an important part in the establishment of industrial culture as well as in the defense of East Asia. To this end, it is of prime importance that her domestic means of communication should be improved and there is no denying the fact that China is considerably backward in this direction.

Most railways in China run north to south in the main provinces only, there being no railway connection yet with even the peninsula of Indo-China. The only railway lines which run westward are the Lung-Hai railway and the Nanking-Paotow railway. Besides completing connection with the peninsula of Indo-China, these railway lines must be greatly extended. Besides the trunk lines required for the development of Asia, so-called industrial railways must also be built in many districts.

Needless to say, the harbor construction work must go hand in hand with railway construction. As trade ports of China, there are, in North China, Tientsin, Tsingtao, Chinwangtao, Lungkow, Chefoo, Wei-hai-wei and Lienyunchiang; in Central China, Shanghai Ningpo, Wenchow, Chinkiang, Nanking, Wuhu, Kiukiang and Hankow, and, in South China, Fuchow, Amoy, Swatow, Canton and Kowloon. Of these ports, Shanghai is the biggest, because it has behind it a hinterland unrivalled in extent in the world. Prior to the outbreak of the China Affair, Shanghai accounted for more than half of China's foreign trade. Regarding the tonnage of ships visiting this port, it comprised over one-third of the total tonnage visiting Chinese ports, in respect of the foreign trade, and about one-fifth in respect of the home trade. Needless to say, Shanghai is one of the best ports in the world and it will certainly continue to play as important a part as ever in future. Shanghai has behind it a very extensive hinterland embracing 200,000,000 inhabitants. Inasmuch as the purchasing power of these people and their producing capacity are still low, Shanghai's trade will, no doubt, increase considerably in future.

Canton Biggest Port

The biggest port in South China is Canton. Canton is second only to Shanghai in the amount of tonnage of foreign shipping visiting it. The importance of this port has increased since the completion of the Canton-Hankow railway and there is no doubt that it will further grow in importance hereafter.

As the development of resources in North China progresses the role to be enacted by the ports in that region will naturally become more important. Tientsin and Tsingtao have been the two principal ports in North China. These are important trade ports ranking next in importance to Shanghai. Tientsin has a hinterland of large dimensions extending up to Mengchiang and the northwestern border with rich resources yet to be developed. Tsingtao's hinterland has become very extensive since the construction of the Tehchow-Shihmen railway and it will be further extended in the event of the Taokow-Chinghwa railway being connected with Kiaotsi at Kiaochow in the east and with the Tatung-Puchow railway in the west.

Notwithstanding the increasingly important role assigned to it, the port of Tientsin has its drawbacks. In winter months the port is frozen and navigation is rendered difficult. Chinwantao, though located farther north, is free from such drawbacks as hamper Tientsin, and so steps ought to be taken to make a better and a more extensive use of this port. The ports of Lungkow, Chefoo and Weihaiwei are rarely frozen and much is particularly expected of Chefoo, as, with the completion of the Chefoo-Weihsien railway and also with the establishment of a closer relationship between Chosen and Manchoukuo, it will acquire greater importance. Lienyunchiang has hitherto been used simply as a port for the shipment of coal. It was in 1933 that Chiang Kai-shek started the work of constructing this harbor and, in 1936, or the year previous to the outbreak of the China Affair, No. 2 Pier was completed. Although some people doubt the value of this port, it really gives promise of its future development, since its hinterland is rich not only in mineral resources such as iron, coal and salt but in agricultural products such as raw cotton, soya beans and peanuts. Moreover, it forms a key point on the main route leading westward to Sinkiang and Central China. Notwithstand-

(Continued on Page 3 Col. 1)

BOSE'S ARMY MARCHES TOWARD INDIA

Approach of Forces of Liberation Awaited by Eager Masses

By OUR FOREIGN EDITOR

February 4, 1944 will long remain one of the most memorable days in the annals of the Indian people—as a day of monumental importance to the Indian race, heralding the coming of their national redemption. On this fateful day, the Indian National Army in cooperation with the Imperial Japanese Forces began its historic march toward New Delhi over the mountains of Mayu and on the Burma-India border.

In outlining the policies of the Imperial Government, Prime Minister Hideki Tojo on January 21 declared in the Imperial Diet:

"Subhas Chandra Bose is ready to march into India at the head of his National Army. The Imperial Government will give its wholehearted assistance to his attempt to secure Indian independence."

The Indian National Army has already begun its westward march in India's first armed contest against its hideous master—Britain. And side by side with the army stand the formidable Imperial Forces which are ready to crush all enemy resistance in their onslaught over the Burma-India frontier.

The Indian National Army is marching shoulder to shoulder with the Imperial Japanese Army, in its sacred mission of liberating India. It is now dealing a deadly blow on the British troops which had long been planning to launch an invasion of Burma in its forlorn hope to recover its lost prestige in East Asia. When Mr. Bose advanced to Burma at the head of his National Army, it had the effect of fundamentally shaking the very souls of the Indian populace who had been groaning under the terrifying mistreatment of British rule. The number of desertions among the Indian soldiers at the front increase steadily, while others will join the Indian National Army as soon as they come into contact with it, and take up arms against the British troops.

Dismayed by such stupendous effects, the British authorities in India placed a strict ban on any reports about the army and circulated the falsehood that the existence of such an army was mere propaganda. But such deception has been disproved by the actual fighting of the Indian National Army in collaboration with the Japanese troops in the present operations around the Mayu region. When the news of this historic event is flashed over India, its people will respond in their surging enthusiasm to overcome British rule. The thick wall which the Indian people had tried vainly to break down in order to secure their freedom is at last being shattered by their brave sons who are marching over the Burma-India border. India is on the eve of its emancipation.

It is only natural with the advance of the Indian National Army that anti-British activities should become more intensified than ever. Fearing the possible revolt of the Indian soldiers at the front, the British authorities have been resorting to various objectionable measures to cope with the situation. They recently withdrew the Gurkha soldiers who are said to be faithful watchdogs of British rule to carry out machinations among the upper classes of the Indian populace for the purpose of effecting some compromise concerning protests against British administration in the country. These soldiers are also utilized in dividing up the Indian National Congress members in order to weaken their united resistance. During the past several months, some 30,000 Indian patriots have been placed under arrest because of their alleged complications in plots against the British authorities.

Minister of State for India Amery recently declared that a famine no longer exists in Bengal Province because of its good crop this year amounting to 8,300,000 tons of rice. But the annual consumption by this single province is more than 11,000,000 tons.

Moreover, India must supply provisions to the Anglo-American forces in that country and the British troops in Western Asia, and as a result of these demands, the people are facing a still greater difficulty in securing foodstuffs. The authorities declared recently that Britain has not been importing food from India in recent months, but the exports of rice and other foodstuffs from India to Western Asia for the consumption of British troops there are not included in these statistics.

Moreover, India has been shouldering a considerable amount of Britain's war burden since the beginning of the present World War. The constribution of 2,100,400,000 rupees for the fiscal year of 1942-43 is 75 per cent of her entire revenue for that year. Britain's exploitation of Indian resources has become increasingly unbearable, the total amount of goods supplied to Britain by India up to the end of July, 1943 being estimated at the vast sum of 37,150,000,000 rupees. It is expected that further increases will be made as time passes.

Thus, India has been proving a great supply base for Britain in the present war in respect to both material resources and manpower. The economic exploitation and objectionable administrative measures adopted by the British authorities have led the people of India to become more and more anti-British in their thoughts and activities.

The inactivities of Admiral Mountbatten, who is supposed to recapture Burma, and of Viceroy Wavell, as well as the misgovernment of Minister of State for India Amery have aggravated the unrest in India. Anti-British riots, boycotts, strikes, etc., in the home front and in the industrial field have increased in both scale and intensity, while desertions in the army have been growing in number. So serious is the situation throughout India that in such cities as Calcutta, Bombay and Madras incredibly dire conditions are prevalent.

To make the situation still worse, friction of a most serious nature has developed among Britain, the United States and Chungking over the question of military command. Britain is undertaking various forms of patchwork in order to retrieve the existing situation but its success seems well nigh impossible of attainment. Conditions are going from bad to worse, and soon the whole of India will be overrun by a growing anti-British agitation. It was such a situation in India that Ambassador Halifax had in mind when he recently declared in a lecture before a meeting of the National Geographic Society:

"Britain hopes India will remain in the British Commonwealth after the war, but will not block her if India desires to sever Empire connections."

But India will not be swayed by such sweet words and sugar-coated expressions. She is advancing headlong toward her prime objective—independence. Minister of State for India Amery may try to intimidate by declaring that emergency measures might be adopted against the present critical conditions, but such threats will not deviate the Indian masses from their present progress toward their "Fateful Day." The more relentless British oppression becomes, the greater will be the zeal and enthusiasm of the Indian patriots to gain their coveted prize which means complete detachment from British control. India stands on the eve of her emancipation and independence.

British Designs in Africa

United States Also Casting Covetous Eyes on French Colonial Possessions in Dark Continent

By Dr. MINORU MAIDA
(From the Gaiko Hyoron)

Editor's Note: Dr. Maida, the author of this article is widely known as a keen critic of diplomatic affairs, particularly through his penetrating essays on the international situation which he has been contributing to this paper.

The following is a section of his article entitled "Lebanon Problems and British Expansion Policy," which appeared in the January issue of the Gaiko Hyoron. In the article, he traces the trend of British expansion to Africa, particularly since the recent decline of French military power.

Taking advantage of the recent decline of French military power, the British politicians have now come to renew their interest on the expansion policy of their empire. This expansion policy is not confined to West Asia. Indeed, I venture to say that the British have their eyes set on the French possessions and territories in Africa.

It will be recalled that at one time France was second only to Britain in the vastness of her empire. Especially in the African Continent, France held first place in the extent of her possessions.

French Possessions Large

Note the following figures:

Colonial Possessions in Africa

Owned by	Area	Population
France	4,272,685 sq. mi.	43,175,000
Britain	3,772,679 " "	61,458,000
Italy	1,266,754 " "	23,350,000
Belgium	920,600 " "	9,580,000
Portugal	796,721 " "	7,023,800
Spain	128,696 " "	934,000 (white only)

The abovementioned French territories include Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Sahara, French West Africa, Togo, Cameroon, French Equatorial Africa, Re-Union, Madagascar, Comoro Island, French Somaliland and others. With respect to the population of these colonies Britain ranked first, but in area, France surpassed her.

But with the recent decline of French military power, it is not to be expected that the land-thirsty Anglo-Saxons should leave these French territories untouched.

During the 18th Century, Britain grabbed Canada when General Wolf defeated the French under Montcalm; Britain took possession of India when Lord Clive overthrew the forces of Dupley in India. Thus she came to hold the world's largest domains in the East and the West.

But the tide is now rapidly changing. It is now obvious that Britain itself will go the way of all flesh within our own times. Since January, 1942, when the Anglo-American forces became active in Morocco, Algeria, and in Tunisia, they are sowing the seeds for future unrest and discontent.

Traditionally the French policy of colonial operation had been to provide sufficient adventurers and governmental subsidies. And these, generally speaking, were quite adequate. But in respect to the development of her colonies or in her investment for trade and commerce, the French people have been showing their defects all along. Frenchmen, though known as the world's thriftiest and most frugal people, were too loathe to put sufficient capital in their colonies abroad, particularly in Africa, notwithstanding the fact that this shortcoming was most frequently pointed out by authorities on colonization.

Unstable Native Population

Another outstanding feature in the French colonies was that the inhabitants within the territories, particularly when compared with those under British rule, were invariably more sensitive and unstable, and consequently, were apt to be easily stirred to make trouble for minor or for no pertinent reason. These peculiarities added a better prospect for Anglo-Saxon's schemes of aggression. France should remember well these points.

Regarding the stability of territorial possessions in the African Continent, some claim that the so-called "Berlin Act" of 1885, and also the "Brussels Act" of 1890, are still in force, and through these international agreements, the balance of trade, mutual aid and some humanitarian problems among their colonies and possessions can be mutually protected. Moreover, they claim, these instruments bind the nations concerned in Africa, and make it unlawful and unnecessary for one owner-nation to encroach upon those possessions owned by the others.

How frail is such a claim, particularly in view of the fact that these instruments were far from perfect, especially in respect to the regions to which these agreements may become applicable. And by a subsequent act of September, 1919, they were drastically modified only to increase the power of the owner-nations. In other words, they re-modified the agreements in such a way so they could do almost anything they chose, in the name or on the pretext of "necessity of maintaining peace and order" within the African possessions.

From more concrete standpoints, the British Kenya Government is enforcing its most exclusive white-immigration policy. In some of the French possessions there is neither a fair nor equitable trade balance, nor a just and equal tariff regulation. In the Belgian Congo, the Belgians alone monopolize the rights and privileges in mining. Even in Liberia which is affiliated with America, they let the Firestone Company practically monopolize the entire trade; the trade doors are not open to all. British as well as American missionaries are greatly discriminated against within the French and Portuguese possessions; the missionaries neither have the right to organize their legal corporation nor land-ownership. The last mentioned inconveniences were most bitterly felt by the Anglo-Saxons, and served to incite the Anglo-Saxons to think, "If these possessions were only our own!".

Hinges on Outcome of War

Whether or not Britain will succeed in her attempt to carry out her ambition is still another point. In the first place, the manner in which Britain ultimately comes out of the present war becomes the deciding factor. Secondly, one cannot overlook the fact that the British Empire has been treading a path of disintegration ever since the close of the First World War, particularly with the rise of the sense of autonomy and even the cry of independence among her colonial possessions. And lastly, the United States has now come into this picture. Not satisfied to be confined within the American Continents, and taking due advantage of the shrinkage of geographical distance as brought out by the developments of aviation, America, too, now casts longing eyes to Asia and Africa. This interest has become more intensified since the landing of the American forces in Africa in November, 1942.

Thus, Britain has now to consider America as her contemporary in Africa. Again, the result of the present war will have sufficient weight to switch the whole situation, and thus it is, for the present, too premature to draw any definite conclusion.

Nippon Times
Evening

Smite Until Our Foes Bend On Their Knees

Nor Flood Nor Fire Will Stop Us Till We've Won

No. 16,132 | TOKYO MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1944 | Price 8 Sen

Press Comments

Monday, February 21
ASAHI—Eastern Front
YOMIURI-HOCHI—New Cabinet Ministers

Eastern Front

ASAHI—That the outcome of the third winter campaign on the Eastern Front has an extremely important bearing on the war situation and political situation in Europe hardly requires any reiteration.

The Soviet Army, which according to the developments observed on the Eastern Front hitherto in the defensive during the summer, contrary to general expectations, took to the offensive last summer and displayed much strength. After a short period of lull in the transition to the winter campaign was over, at the end of December, the Soviet forces seeing that their opportunity had come, switched to their general offensive with the display of all their strength in an attempt to roll back the German forces.

That the Soviet Union had had confidence in its winter campaign, could be recognized from various words and actions on the Soviet side. Especially the fact that in regard to the opening of the second front, which hitherto the Soviet side had never failed to demand from the Anglo-Americans most pressingly at every opportunity, complete silence was kept at the time when the Soviets switched over to their winter offensive; this fact, indeed, was one of those instances.

But then, what is after all the fighting situation on the Eastern Front at the present moment when the winter campaign has already passed its peak? Surely, the Soviet forces have territorially again displayed some advance; however, they have not reached their intended objective of annihilating the main force of the German Army. In this winter campaign, which was considered for the German Army a most difficult and important period, the Wehrmacht has fought well, overcoming adverse conditions. As the German military authorities have stated, in preparation for the gradually nearing formation of a second front by the Anglo-Americans, part of the military strength had to be withdrawn from the Eastern Front, and, moreover, the situation in the Balkans and in Italy required reinforcement of the German military strength there. In view of this new situation in Europe, Germany could not help shifting the center of gravity of her fighting strength. The center of gravity of Germany's fighting strength which hitherto had been placed chiefly on the Eastern Front had naturally to be moved in response to the importance which will be assumed by the coming Western Front.

This meant that the German forces on the Eastern Front were to face a winter campaign with a comparatively small military strength facing a compartively hard antagonist. But that yet the German forces, relying on their peculiar, very elastic strategy, were able to hem in the Eastern Front in its present state, this must be attributed to the solid defense of the German forces.

On the other hand, the Soviet Union was in a position to throw in its total strength for the fight against Germany, but on account of her successive fierce offensives, she suffered great losses. Moreover, her territorial advances into dilapidated battlefields caused just so much lengthening of her commissary lines. It is thus evident that the Soviet Union's general offensive, without being able to achieve the results which had been expected hitherto, is about to come to an end for the time being.

Even though the future may not necessarily permit any optimism, there are many indications at present from the development of the winter campaign which would suggest that hereafter the Eastern Front be in a state of stagnation. But, on the other hand, there is a possibility for a chance that in the West the ambitions of America and Britain will be swept away at one stroke and that both the fighting situation and the political situation will make a great turn into a new direction.

On the other hand, the present stage of the political situation in Europe is such that a slight change in the war situation will immediately have a delicate influence on the political situation. As soon as the Soviet forces broke the encirclement which the German Army had maintained during two years around Leningrad and advanced westward, the Americans without missing that chance, stretched out their evil hands and steared manipulations against Finland in an attempt to take her out of the war. This is just one instance of what has been said now. As to whether or not Finland is going to be made to dance to the tune of the anti-Axis, will depend on Finland's own

(Continued on Page 2 Col. 4)

FINANCIAL PROGRAM WILL BE CONTINUED, DECLARES ISHIWATA

Basic Policy Unchanged; Savings, Bond Absorption Stressed at Interview

That Japan's financial policy is firmly fixed and that the change of Finance Minister does not mean any change in the fundamental policy was made clear by the new Finance Minister, Sotaro Ishiwata, yesterday in an interview with a group of Japanese newspapermen, when he touched upon three important problems, the execution of the huge wartime budget, full realization of the people's savings goal and the solution of the currency issue in Greater East Asia.

The questions and answers exchanged between the new Finance Minister and the newspapermen follow:

Q. What is the financial policy under the present decisive-war stage?

A. The policy which has been pursued since the commencement of the China Affair remains unshaken. It has won the confidence of the people and has become a matter of surprise to the world. I think the measures taken and the idea conceived by the outgoing Minister, Mr. Kaya, since the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia have been correct. Accordingly, I have no intention of changing the present financial and monetary policy.

Savings Is Stressed

Q. The next fiscal year's State Budget totals ¥51,000,000,000 if the ordinary account and extraordinary military budget are combined. What are the points on which special attention will be exercised in the enforcement of the huge budget?

A. The next fiscal year's Budget certainly is a huge one, but judging from the measures taken for balancing the budget with bonds and taxes, it is sound and healthy. But, because the amount of bonds to be issued is large, the increase in savings is most essential for its smooth execution. I wish that all the people will cooperate fully in this matter.

Q. What measures have you in mind for successful realization of the ¥36,000,000,000 savings goal of the nation? And what do you expect regarding the mental preparedness of the people?

A. The savings represent the outflow of the patriotism of the people. Whether the savings goal will be reached or not will depend on the sentiments of the people. I am fully confident that the people are determined to attain the savings objective at any cost.

Q. The present tax increase will call for further sacrifies in the living of the people. What effects will the tax increase have on the nation?

A. If the people are fully prepared to serve the country, they will be able to accept the present tax increase gladly. The people's living standard should be reduced in accordance with the progress of the situation. Such is the demand of war.

Q. The present tax system is losing flexibility. Have you any aspiration regarding a taxation reform or a new taxation in view?

A. For some time I have been out of touch with the tax issue and I have some points on which I am in the dark. Therefore, I should like

(Continued on Page 2 Col. 6)

POPE WILL BARE STAND ON BOMBING OUTRAGE

Will Issue Statement on Monastery's Destruction

Domei

BERLIN, February 20.—Pope Pius XII is expected to make an important statement on February 22 in connection with the anti-Axis bombing of the Benedictine Monastery on Mount Cassino which was completely destroyed, according to a report from Rome.

Special

LISBON, February 20.—Pope Pius XII will receive and address ecclesiatics, including monks who are to preach at the Roman Churches on Easter Day, according to a Vatican report. Vatican circles expect that the Pope will refer to the destruction of the Benedictine Monastery by the anti-Axis forces in the course of this address.

Foe's Anti-Japan Atrocity Charges Denied; Conditions Excellent, War Captives Say

Special

SHANGHAI, February 20.—In the midst of simultaneous launchings by the American and British Governments of their propaganda campaigns alleging mistreatment of war prisoners by the Japanese in an obvious attempt to cover up their own brutal acts as well as to divert public attention from the hitches in their war plans, enemy war prisoners in Japanese hands are seen to be more than ready to deny the atrocity stories issued by their homeland authorities as well as to express appreciation for the considerate treatment which they are actually receiving at present at the Japanese camps

Although British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden made the accusation that at the time of the sinking of the Lisbon Maru, in October, 1942, the 1,800 British prisoners of war on board the ship were forced into the holds with the hatches closed over them, those who were saved by the Japanese sailors at the risk of their own lives, admit that they have been treated well.

Sapper Lieutenant Beckett of the British Royal Engineers when asked to make a statement concerning "maltreatment of war prisoners by the Japanese authorities" said, "Conditions in this camp, in my opinion, are good all around. For instance, medical treatment is everything that it should be. Food is favorable. We have a very good library, ping-pong tables, and other sport facilities such as baseball, boxing and others. I was one of the survivors of the ill-fated Lisbon Maru which took me from Hongkong but was sunk in the China Seas. I was one of the lucky ones who were saved and am being treated well here at the Shanghai war prisoners' camp."

Doctor Maurice S. Lynch of the Canadian army says, "Camp sanitation is constantly in the minds of the authorities, while the medical treatment for war prisoners has been excellent and the best that could be given. This humanitarian policy is especially appreciated by the prisoners of war, who in their trying and natural life, are aware of the kindness. They have only one thing to live for, and that is to keep healthy until they are able to return to their families in the future."

Private A. Buchanan of the Royal Army Medical Corps says, "Conditions in this camp are good with facilities for sports adequate and housing conditions are excellent. The food we receive is excellent. The medical supplies are sufficient and we are grateful to the Japanese authorities for the good clinic and hospital which they have established for us in this camp. Red Cross supplies, received in the camp twice a month, are a great help to the prisoners. In my estimation, this camp is as good a war prisoners' camp as one could expect.

'Unpleasant Surprise' By Japanese Fleet Warned by N.Y. Times

Special

LISBON, February 20.—The New York Times editorially warned Americans against the "false impression" that the Japanese fleet "will not come out now and fight," in its comment on the operations in the Gilbert and Marshall Islands, according to a New York dispatch. Pointing out that the Japanese still have a powerful fleet, the Times declared, "Not all of our fleet is in the Pacific, of course, and Japan may be reserving some unpleasant surprises that are now in secret construction." In this connection, the Times quoted the Chungking paper, Ta Kung Pao, which forecasted a decisive naval action in the Pacific as not far off and "must come in any case before the British fleet is able to concentrate in the Orient." The Times warned that the Japanese fleet is under concentration somewhere and sooner or later will fight.

U.S. SOLONS DEMAND DETAILS ON OIL ISSUE

Exploiting Resources in Middle East Call for Minute Investigation

Special

LISBON, February 20.—A regular hydra of political problems has resulted from the United States Government's project to exploit the oil resources in the Middle East, according to a Washington dispatch.

The dispatch stated that these questions will be investigated by a special commitee proposed by the Truman Senate Committee.

Several senators, including Senator Moore of Oklahoma and Republican Senator Ralph O. Brewster of Maine are demanding an accurate explanation of the affair and its possible consequences.

The question uppermost in the minds of influential political circles is whether the section of the oil pipe line running across the territory controlled by Britain in the Mediterranean area will be under British protection and how the solution of this problem is being planned.

The problem of royalties to Arab rulers who place their territory at

(Continued on Page 2 Col. 1)

FIRES RING LONDON AFTER HEAVY RAID

Anti-Axis Admits Damage; Electricity, Gas, Phone, Water Systems Disrupted

Special

LISBON, February 20.—Anti-Axis quarters admitted the widespread damage caused last night in a half a dozen districts in London by the waves of German heavy and fighter bombers which dropped tons of explosives and incendiaries in a raid that was characterized as Germany's "strongest bid to set the British capital ablaze since the all-out attacks of 1940," according to reports from London. "Fires ringed the city, lighting up the horizon," these quarters said, noting that with the dawn, London began assessing its damages.

They said that the Luftwaffe, led by their pathfinders which brightly lit up the London sky by dropping flares, carried out the heavy raid, with German bombers appearing later from all directions.

A Berlin dispatch stated that huge conflagrations in various parts of the city were observable from miles around. The German quarters revealed that the British anti-aircraft batteries and night-fighters proved ineffective. Only five German raiders failed to return.

In the British capital, all gas, electricity, telephone and water services were put out of commission,

(Continued on Page 2 Col. 1)

Portugal Grants Macao Right to Issue Notes

Domei

HONGKONG, February 20.—The Portuguese Government has decided to give the Government of Macao the right to issue bank notes as it has become impossible, with the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, to supply the colony with notes issued in Lisbon.

Formerly, the Portuguese Government held the right of issuing the Macao dollar note, the notes being shipped to Macao.

Under the new decision, the Government of Macao is authorized to issue notes to the extent of $10,000,000, and the denominations of the new bank notes will be decided by the Governor-General.

However, when transportation between Portugal and Macao becomes normal again, the notes issued by the Macao Government will be replaced by those issued in Portugal.

Sweden Not Recognizing Status of Czech Delegate

Special

STOCKHOLM, February 20.—Sweden has refused to recognize Dr. Vladmir Kucera, who is now in this city, as the official representative of the Czech Government in exile, according to the statement issued by the semi-official Swedish News agency.

The announcement reads: "The report that Sweden has recognized Dr. Vladmir Kucera as the representative of the Czech Government is denied by the Swedish Foreign Office."

Kucera is looked upon by the Foreign Office and other Swedish authorities as merely a semi-official representative of the interests of the stateless Czechs living here.

Fuehrer's Headquarters

February 20

South of Krivoi Rog, a German group broke through the Soviet positions and took numerous places. The enemy attacks, carried out on both sides of the city, failed.

Also east of Shashkoff, the enemy attacks collapsed after a heavy tank battle and the Soviets lost 26 tanks there.

Between the Pripjet and the Beresina, the enemy after strong artillery preparations and supported by tanks and battle flyers again made an attack, but his attempts at breaking through were frustrated in heavy ding-dong battles, while local breaches were sealed off.

In successful fights against the enemy bands in the central front sector, the German troops, defying strong enemy opposition destroyed 257 enemy strongholds and over 100 supply dumps. A considerable amount of arms, cattle and foodstuffs were seized. The Soviets suffered heavy casualties.

Furious Battle Raging

North of Velikiye Luki and south of Lake Ilmen, lively struggles ensued which are still in progress. Enemy pressure is still exerted between Lake Ilmen and Lake Peipus as well as in the Narva area. In embittered fighting numerous Soviet attacks failed. Enemy marching columns and deployments were smashed by the concentrated fire of the German artillery fire. Fierce struggles are still being waged in some places where the enemy has broken in.

The struggles at the beachhead of Nettuno continued also yesterday with unabated vigor. Our attacks and enemy counter-attacks, supported by tanks, alternated south and southeast of Aprilia. Bombers and flyer formations attacked during the day and night targets in the beachhead of Nettuno with telling effect. Extensive conflagrations and explosions of ammunition dumps occurred in Anzio harbor.

10 Enemy Ships Blasted

In the battle against enemy ship concentrations off Anzio, one 7,000-ton transport was sunk and two more aggregating 16,000 gross register tons were heavily damaged. Our U-boats, operating off Nettuno, sank three fully laden enemy landing vessels and one freighter totaling 16,000 gross register tons as well as two destroyers. In the same waters, a German U-boat under the command of Lieutenant-Captain Fenski sank one enemy cruiser.

On the southern front in the Cassino area, the enemy did not continue his large-scale attacks as a result of heavy casualties suffered during the previous days.

Apart from fierce local attacks in the sector northeast of Castel Forte, the day passed quietly on the entire front.

Altogether 18 enemy aircraft were shot down over the Italian front.

During the morning hours of February 20, British bomber formations launched a terror attack against places in central Germany. By dropping a great number of explosive and incendiary bombs, the residential quarters of the city of Leipzig were struck particularly. Our anti-aircraft defense forces downed 83 four-engined bombers.

Enemy planes on nuisance flights dropped bombs on places in northern and northwestern Germany last night.

Naval forces, anti-aircraft artillery on board freighters and naval A.A. artillery, downed 12 enemy aircraft in the period from February 11 until 20.

79 Enemy Planes Lost

Domei

AMSTERDAM, February 20.—London, according to Reuter, officially admitted that so far 79 four-engined bombers are missing from the air raid against Germany on Saturday night.

Escape Soviet Encirclement

Domei

BERLIN, February 20.—In addition to the official German war communique, the German High Command announced in supplementing the report of February 18 on the liberation of the German fighting group, encircled west of Cherkassy:

"The reincorporation of the liberated German divisions has been completed. Units of the army and Waffen SS under the command of the General of the Artillery Wilhelm Stemmermann and Lieutenant-General Theobald Lieb in a heroic defense have withstood the onslaught of numerically far superior forces and in fierce fighting have succeeded in breaking the ring of encirclement around them.

(Continued on Page 2 Col. 2)

INDIA'S ARMY ADVANCES . . . Shown above are units of the Azad Hind Fauj embarking on railway cars from XX point, bound for the front lines in their march to Delhi. Seen in the foreground is their leader, Subhas Chandra Bose, inspecting last-minute preparations, as he gives his men an inspiring and hearty send-off. (Passed by War Ministry. Telephoto from Fukuoka)

Existence of Bose's Army Becomes Known To Indian Pilot Captured in Arakan Area

By a Domei War Correspondent

UNDISCLOSED BASE IN BURMA, February 19.—"I am ashamed of being ignorant of the existence of the Indian National Army as well as the Provisional Government of Free India," was the confession made by a certain Lieutenant Sikh, officer of the Indian Air Force.

He was handed over to the Japanese Army by Arakan farmers immediately after he had made a forced landing on January 27 in the Kaladan area. "I was photographing that area when I met an accident. Everything up to the time of the forced landing had been a dream to me," he declared.

He said that for two days and nights he did not sleep after his capture because he was reviewing his past and thinking of his future. "Today after seeing with my own eyes, our brothers struggling along the Indo-Burma border to get back independence, I came to realize for the first time my duty and obligation to the motherland.

Renounces British Loyalty

"I have already renounced my allegiance to the Crown. I confess that I am ashamed of being ignorant all this time of the existence of the Indian National Army as well as the Provisional Government of Free India."

He added that upon graduating from Khalsa College in Amritsar in 1941, he took up flying because he wanted to learn to fly. He frankly admitted that there is another reason for his joining the Indian Air Force. "Today I have drawn 600 rupees and this sum is large enough to attract every young Indian college graduate."

Asked whether he ever heard of his Indian brothers and sisters outside of India, especially in East Asia sacrificing everything for the cause of their motherland, he replied: "Once or twice, we heard that there was an independence movement going on in Malai and Burma but we had our doubts in the truth of such stories."

"I am glad I do not have to depend on British propagandists as to what we Indians have to think," he said, adding that the British censorship is preventing all the true news about the struggle of the Indians coming into India.

"Let all news from East Asia get into India, then the results will be an eye-opener to the Indians," he declared. He said that the news of the transfer of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands never reached India.

British Lies Spread

The British have been feeding the Indians with carefully camouflaged stories which "to me seem to be filled with mockery and deceit," the Sikh pilot declared. "Perhaps my fellow pilots will hurl stinging rebukes at me for my suddenly changed attitude but there is nothing that I am afraid to tell. They know that nobody in India is allowed in the public to tune into foreign stations. The only time they can listen to foreign broadcasts is at home but this has to be done secretly because the law prohibits all foreign broadcasts."

He revealed that the British monitor stations within India are busy checking up day and night all foreign broadcasts.

He also pointed out that increasing oppression is stealthily carried out against the anti-British Indians and such oppression is "interpreted as a desperate attempt on the part of Britain to whip up reluctant Indians and gain a tighter control."

British Duping Indians

"With all Congress leaders in prison, the British have been duping the Indians, whether educated or uneducated, into believing that the British will grant dominion status after the war."

Continuing, the Sikh Lieutenant said, "I am about to leave here and meet Subhas Chandra Bose. This is what I must do. I decided to sacrifice everything I have. The British authorities may bring pressure to my family and wife and ill-treat them for my aligning with the Provisional Government. But I am not afraid of what they are going to do to my family and wife.

"When one tackles the gigantic task of freeing his own country, such a matter as one's family must be forgotten. That is where sacrifice comes in and all hardships and inconveniences follow. I am sure the public in India has not lost the zeal and struggle for independence."

He asserted that he had joined the Indian Air Force before the war and that he and his fellow Indian officers did not consider Japan as an enemy. "I and my fellow officers never wanted to mingle with the British officers although we were given the opportunity. In fact, we never allowed these British officers to attend our mess and they also never allowed us to attend theirs."

"What I just said will give a glimpse of what sort of an atmosphere prevails in the Indian Air Force," he asserted. "While I am enjoying freedom, here, instead of being a prisoner of war, I have a bit of worry about my fellow officers and pity for them because I know that they will always be under the suspicion of the British authorities and closely watched whether they are at home or out on a flying mission."

NEW WAR DISASTERS AWAIT ARAKAN FOES NOW IN NIPPON NET

British 7th, 5th Armies Face Doom; Sinzeiwwa Enemy Caught in Trap

Domei

UNDISCLOSED BASE, February 20.—At the close of the rainy season last year, the British-Indian forces crossed the India-Burma frontier and entered the Akyab area. Their aim was to recapture Burma, but with the crack Imperial Forces in that area now on the advance, the enemy is now facing another Arakan tragedy.

In August, last year, the British-Indian forces launched their drive against Burma, and from about September when the rainy season ended, they began bombing various areas in Burma, particularly the Akyab sector.

Toward the end of October the enemy land units advanced through a gap in our lines. They mobilized thousands of trucks to carry munitions and arms along the motor road running from Cock's Bazaar to Maungdaw, and hurriedly distributed their fighting units. At the same time, they built supply stations at various points between Bawli Bazaar and Maungdaw. Finally, on October 31, they reached Aurabin, north of Maungdaw.

Enemy Moves Checked

In October and November more than ten battles were fought by our forces in that area. In December, the enemy attempted to enter the district north of the motor road extending about 15 kilometers between Maungdaw and Buthidaung, but on January 12, they encountered our fierce counter-attack in the neighborhood of Zenamin, north of Maungdaw, and retreated.

The Imperial Forces had been watching for an opportunity to attack the enemy, and in the [illegible] part of January our forces [illegible] the offensive in cooperation with the first-line units of the Indian National Army. With the commencement of our activity, the British-Indian forces detailed the 71st and 81st Divisions, brought from North Africa, to the area far north of the Mayu Mountain Range. In the Mayu Mountain area, between Maungdaw and Buthidaung, were placed the 5th and 7th Divisions of British-Indian forces.

The 5th Division was organized under the command of Major-General H. R. Bricks, composed of the 132nd and 169th Brigades, with its headquarters in the Zeganpin area, about eight kilometers north of Maungdaw. The 5th Division is composed of British and Indian troopers, with the British soldiers in the majority. The 7th Division is composed of the 114th, 89th, and 33rd Brigades, with its headquarters at Ngknedauk, about 10 kilometers north of Buthidaung.

Retreat Is Cut Off

In the operation against these two enemy divisions, our forces detoured to the east of the Mayu range, and, on February 4, suddenly advanced to Taung Bazaar, an important point about 15 kilometers north of Buthidaung. Continuing their advancing toward the rear of Ngaknedauk, our forces on the night of February 6 succeeded in occupying Ngyangyan, at the rear of the 5th Division's headquarters. At the same time, the bridge on the only usable road to the Chittagong area was destroyed. Thus, the rear communications of the two enemy divisions were completely cut off.

In cooperation with the detouring operation of the right flank units, our crack units in the Maungdaw area also opened an offensive against the enemy on February 4. Meanwhile, our main forces in the Maungdaw and Buthidaung areas started to advance toward the enemy posi-

(Continued on Page 2 Col. 3)

British Ignorance Hit By Slovakian Journal

Special

LISBON, February 20.—"London does not know the spirit which is ruling Slovakia today," the noted Slovakian paper, Gardista, stated in reply to the latest British propaganda, according to a Brastislava dispatch.

The demand for the establishment of the Partizan Movement and for carrying through sabotage acts caused the Gardista to state that the Slovakian people would not destroy their future on account of a few fools at London, and thus frustrate the possibility of becoming an important member of the European family of nations.

JUGOSLAV PROBLEM REACHES DEADLOCK

King Peter's Negotiations In S. Italy Fail; Naming Of Krek Aggravates Issue

Special

LISBON, February 20.—The diplomatic correspondent of the London Observer reported that King Peter of Jugoslavia visited Southern Italy in an unsuccessful attempt to reach a working agreement with the resistance movement inside Jugoslavia, according to a dispatch received here.

The correspondent stated that this information reached him from a reliable Jugoslav source although it has not been confirmed in Cairo.

King Peter flew to Italy to discuss the situation with the envoy of the liberation movement, the commentator declared. The meeting took place about a month ago, and was arranged by the British Government.

The envoy, this dispatch stated, demanded the immediate dismissal of the Puritch government and the recognition by the King of the Provisional Government. The King is said to have refused.

The Jugoslav issue has been still intensified by the appointment by the Puritch government a few days ago of Dr. Miho Krek as its representative on the Mediterranean Advisory Commission. Krek is unpopular with many Jugoslavians because of his past connections with the reactionary Slovene peoples and his participation in the Cvetkovitch regime which was turned out of office by a coup d'etat on March 27, 1941.

The appointment of Krek raises a delicate issue for the British, American and Soviet governments. If they accept Krek as a member of the Commission, they thereby refuse, in effect, the demand of the Provisional Government to speak in the name of Jugoslavia.

Fires Ring London After Heavy Raid

(Continued From Page 1)

other reports stating that work of the fire-brigades and rescue squads were hampered by the destruction of their shelters.

Reich Raps Terror Raids

Domei

BERLIN, February 18.—The destruction of the magnificent Berlin street, the Kurfuerstendamm, is called by the British News Service as one of the most remarkable results of the latest British terrorattack on Berlin. Heavy damage was also announced to have been wrought in the Grunewald district.

The importance, attached by the British to the destruction of the Kurfuerstendamm and the Grunewald district consisting chiefly of villas, according to Berlin political quarters, is documentary evidence of the phrase, used by the British Air Minister in the latest session of the House of Commons regarding the aims of the allied air warfare.

"Had it not been Sir Archibald Sinclair, former Air Minister, who used to say that British bombers have no intentions to destroy residential quarters but are merely employed against military targets?" they ask. "Every Britisher who has visited Berlin knows, German political quarters point out, that there are no factories or workmen's dwellings either in the Grunewald or on the Kurfuerstendamm the destruction of which might weaken the German war production."

"The obvious British satisfaction at the destruction of these purely residential quarters, therefore, once again confirms that the British terror airmen do not care where they drop their bombs. Their main object is to kill human beings and to destroy residential quarters," they declared.

U.S. Solons Demand Details on Oil Issue

(Continued From Page 1)

the disposal of the oil enterprise is also awaiting clarification. In this connection, it was pointed out that already $25,000,000 has been paid to Saudi Arabia's sultan.

Congressional quarters point out the possibility of armed conflict between the Arabs and the Jews in the area through which the pipe line will run.

Information is also being sought as to whether, in this case, military measures have been provided and whether British or American troops are to be employed.

The discussion on the attitude of other anti-Axis countries toward political hegemony in this area is also expected with special interest. These anti-Axis countries who have no direct investment in the project will demand, it is feared, a guarantee for the right of permanent purchase of oil at appropriate prices.

Interesting People

Minister Goto—A Man of Action

"The bolstering of the wartime transportation setup lies in action alone," remarked Keita Goto, the new Minister of Transportation and Communications, his ruddy face glowing with resolution and confidence. After taking over the post of Transportation and Communications Minister from the Yoshiaki Hatta on Saturday, Mr. Goto spent the first evening of his ministership at his villa "Shunzanso" in Kaminome, Setagaya-ku.

Early on Sunday at about 6 a.m. Minister Goto was seen taking a brisk walk along the banks of the Tama River. He had confidence in the power of his legs, for it is said that during his middle school days, the newly appointed Minister had walked three ri daily to school without a day's absence.

Since the death of his wife 23 years ago, Mr. Goto has lived solely for his work. One is reminded of the warriors of ancient Japan when he senses the ardor, strength and confidence which emanates from this man.

Minister Goto returned to his home in Hasedo, Shibuya a little after 11 a.m. on Sunday. His home had been turned into a scene of much stir and bustle as Minister of Greater East Asiatic Affairs Kazuo Aoki and other Government officials called on Minister Goto.

"My two sons are serving the nation—one is in the Army and the other is in the Navy, and now the time has come for their father to answer the nation's call," laughingly remarked Minister Goto as he hastily partook of a glass of milk and an apple.

The younger son, a non-commissioned sub-lieutenant in the Navy, made his supreme sacrifice last autumn in the South. The eldest son, Noboru, a second lieutenant in the Army, described his father in the following manner:

"My father is a man capable of deep feelings of both joy and sorrow. He is really devoted to us and it might be said that we were brought up by our father's hands alone. Ever since his innocence was irrefutably proven in the railway scandal, father has changed greatly. He used to tell us often that the nation had believed in his integrity. I am sure that in view of the recent death of my brother, father senses more strongly than ever the worth of living, and this feeling must have been intensified now that he has been entrusted with such important work at the time of the nation's need."

Minister Goto is described by his lifelong friend, Shinjiro Oi, as a man well acquainted with all the grim realities of life, having worked his way through university by dint of his indomitable will and determination. Mr. Oi, at his home in Takabancho, Meguro-ku, commented as follows on the new Transportation and Communications Minister:

"I have known Mr. Goto since the days of my elementary school days which were spent in our native village in Nagano Prefecture. Our friendship probably goes back some 40 or 50 years. Mr. Goto has always been a hard worker and a person of action.

"Born a second son of a farmer, Mr. Goto worked his way through the law course of the Tokyo Imperial University. His expenses at the Imperial University were paid by the money he had saved while teaching English at the Yokkaichi Commercial School following his graduation from the higher normal school.

"He is indeed a man of the world. He is very strict on the matter of work, but looks after the welfare of his subordinates with remarkable solicitude and kindness. Golf used to be Mr. Goto's hobby in the past, but lately he has taken up yokyoku (the singing of 'no' songs) and walking."

WORLD DOMINATION BY AMERICA SCORED

Manila Tribune Sees U.S. Devilish Schemes To Disregard Britain

Domei

MANILA, February 19.—Scoring the United States ambition to control the world, the Tribune editorially declared today that the enemy not only aims at the conquest of Axis nations, "but is silently working for the attainment of world hegemony after the war."

It pointed out "this sinister intention is becoming clear every day since the United States is maneuvering to attain post-war world hegemony without giving the slightest consideration for the rights and interests of Britain and other anti-Axis Powers."

It went on to say that British military and naval air bases "are only areas under American domination. Strategic spheres in West Asia and Africa are also under the control of the United States Air Force." The paper asked, "Would America give them up easily now?"

In the Chungking-controlled parts of China, the Tribune asserted, that Chiang's forces are building bases for the American air force "ignorant of the fact that the establishment of strong American air power in China means nothing but domination of China by the United States."

The paper pointed out that "such are the machinations prepared by the hands of America who are attempting to dominate the whole world."

Fuehrer's Headquarters

(Continued from Page 1)

The command and troops of the German armed forces have thus added to the history of the German soldiers another brilliantly shining example of the heroic endurance and audacious fighting spirit and comradeship in making sacrifices.

"Units of the army and Waffen SS under the command of the General of the Panzers General Breith fought for the relief of this fighting group in cooperation with troops under the command of Lieutenant-General von Vormann under the most difficult weather and terrain conditions by the exemplary action of every single soldier thus establishing the prerequisite of the break-through.

"The Soviets suffered heavy losses in men and between February 4 and 18 lost 728 tanks and assault guns, while 800 guns were seized and several thousand prisoners taken.

"The 8th Air Corps under the command of Lieutenant-General Seidemann in the traditional comradeship of arms supported the heavily fighting troops of the army in exemplary fashion. Transport and fighter units supplied the enveloped forces under difficult weather conditions and in the face of strong enemy fighter and anti-aircraft defenses brought them ammunition, food supplies and fuel, and carried back 2,400 wounded. In the course of these operations, 32 transport planes were lost. Some 58 enemy airplanes were lost in aerial combats and by anti-aircraft fire."

Hitler Decorates Generals

Domei

FUEHRER'S HEADQUARTERS, February 20.—The Fuehrer invested General Wilhelm Stemmermann, Commander of an Army Corps, and Lieutenant-General Theobald Lieb with the Oak Leaves to the Knights' Cross of the Iron Cross. These decorations were given these generals in connection with the break-through battle west of Cherkassy on the Eastern Front.

New War Disasters Await Arakan Foes Now in Nippon Net

(Continued From Page 1)

tions. Taking advantage of the confusion caused in the enemy camp, our forces intensified their activities and on February 9 the communications between the two enemy divisions were completely cut off. Thus, about 5,000 enemy units in the dense jungles of the Mayu range were surrounded at the Sinzeiwwa Height, north of Buthidaung, by our forces that had advanced from Taung Babazaar in the north, and from Maungdaw and Buthidaung in the south. An enemy unit, supported with about 100 tanks, is now making desperate resistance.

The enemy headquarters at Ngaknedauk was surprise-attacked by the Japanese Forces on the nights of February 13 and 14, and was also fiercely bombed by our Air Forces, thus adding to the confusion of the enemy.

Encirclement Is Tightened

At present, our encirclement ring around the foe at Sinzeiwwa is being drawn closer, and the 7th Division is now entirely cut off from the 5th Division, with supplies being dropped to it from the air, the Division is now barely managing to continue fighting. On the other hand, the 5th Division is attempting to escape by small boats on the Naaf River. They are proving to be good targets for our airplanes.

The activity of the Indian National Army in cooperation with our forces has been more than expected. As the result of our offensives, great confusion has been caused among the ranks of the enemy 7th Division and those surrendering to our side are increasing in number. The second Arakan tragedy for the British is now approaching. Then, next comes the advance to Chittagong, Calcutta and then to New Delhi.

FLU TAKES BIG TOLL IN U.S. AND BRITAIN

10,800,000 Are Affected In England; 17 Million Suffering in America

Domei

LISBON, February 20.—The following report on the influenza epidemic situations in England and America was published in the News Chronicle, according to dispatches from London:

"From last November to January of this year, victims of the influenza epidemic totalled 10,800,000 in England. Out of this figure, approximately 2,000,000 developed pneumonia. The foregoing figures are based on Gallop investigations. According to investigations carried out in various quarters in England, 27 per cent of the entire population fell victim to the influenza of which one out of every five developed other complications.

"Government authorities announced that 5,300 died from the epidemic in 126 of the larger cities in England from the middle of November to the end of January. The epidemic was at its worst during the second and third weeks of December, with a toll of over 1,000 deaths per week. The ravages of the epidemic abated somewhat during January and deaths declined to 143 and 104 for the weeks ending January 22 and 29 respectively. There were more influenza victims among the upper and the middle classes than among the smaller income classes.

"Similar investigations in the United States disclosed that up to the middle of January, 13 per cent of the total population, or about 17,000,000 persons, were suffering from influenza attacks."

Press Comments

(Continued from Page 1)

will and judgment. But, at any rate, it is certain that if Finland quits the war under Anglo-American pressure she will be brought into the miserable fate of being another Badoglio Italy. And this refers not to Finland alone. It must be strictly noted that all minor countries of Europe are now facing a very important juncture at which they must take their proper steps on the basis of a correct and penetrating view and a clear and firm judgment.

New Cabinet Ministers

YOMIURI HOCHI—It goes without saying that increased production of food, prevention of inflation, and solution of the transportation problem are the most important issues under the wartime situation as each of those problems is most closely related with the prosecution of the war.

In the last European war Germany was defeated because of her food problem and inflation. In the present World War, too, if considered from the angle of currency inflation, the financially loose United States is already showing symptoms of suffering from a vicious inflation. If the present war goes on a few more years, the wave of wartime inflation will surely engulf all of America.

That Britain in the present World War has been able so far to carry on, though not very creditably, is in no small measure due to the fact that, having learnt from her bitter experiences in the last World War, she has early established her emergency food program, strenuously pushing ahead all necessary preparations for the enforcement of those measures.

Again, the fact that the transportation problem has a direct and a most important bearing on the war is to be known by the reality of the current Pacific war which presents unmistakable aspects of being a supply war. Whether on the war front or on the home front, where there exist materials and goods, there will always come up consequent transportation problems to be settled.

In the present step taken by the Government to change at one time the three Cabinet Ministers who administratively are charged with the task of solving these problems is seen a most adroit means whereby it is trying to rejuvenate itself. The new Finance Minister, Sotaro Ishiwata, became Finance Minister for the first time in 1939 in the Hiranuma Cabinet, inheriting the financial policy of his predecessors, Okinori Kaya and Seihin Ikeda. Then the financial administration of several other successors of his intervened until at last he is now again inducted to the portfolio of Finance. However, the character of Japan's wartime finances has in the meantime undergone no change, its vital basic points being consistently preserved. Thus no palpable change could be expected to be introduced in the State's financial policy as a result of the present change in the post of Finance Minister.

The ability of Shinya Uchida, new Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, has been already tested in his capacity as Governor of Miyagi Prefecture and the president of the Tohoku Regional Council, in his enforcement of emergency time foodstuffs production and other measures. Keita Goto, the new Minister of Transportation and Communications, is a man of unique ability in the private business circles of this country, and we consider that he will try to have a grasp of the hearts of the officials of his ministry which only recently was established out of the amalgamation of the Railways Ministry and Communications Ministry and intensify further the activities of the officials in his charge. The war situation today is such that he should go ahead smashing all obstacles blocking the realization of his policy.

MALAI GREETS 'MOMPEI' . . . The "Mompei" trousers, popular among the women of Japan, today, have caught the attention of the daughters of the South, too. The women of Malai like it immensely and will be seen everywhere in the near future attired in these trousers. "The 'mompei' trousers have come to stay. From now on, we Malai girls will wear them for work as well as play," remarked a group of girls who were interviewed in Shonan recently when they wore these trousers for the first time. The Malai girls were first introduced to the "mompei" fashion by Japanese women of the Malai Public Service Association who undertook to teach their Malai sisters the correct method of sewing such an apparel. A number of the Malai women received free tuition and most satisfactory results were obtained. The girls have found out that "sarongs" can be conveniently cut down and sewn into "mompei," thus saving a portion of the cloth for other purposes.

Roosevelt Seeks Life As Private Citizen; To Quit at War-End

Domei

LISBON, February 19.—"I, myself, desire to return home as a private citizen, but as long as the war continues, I will be called out to serve the nation same as officers and men," declared President Franklin Roosevelt, according to Senator Claude Pepper, Democrat from Florida, it is reported from New York. Pepper, interpretes this statement by the President to mean that even if Roosevelt is re-elected at the coming presidential election, he will resign and retire as a private citizen when the war comes to an end.

Financial Program Will Be Continued, Declares Ishiwata

(Continued From Page 1)

to state my views after I have made a full study.

Q. What anti-inflation policy have you in mind?

Bond Consumption Vital

A. The fundamental thing about the so-called inflation is the people's apprehension regarding the consumption of bonds. If bond consumption is smooth, there will be no fear of inflation. Accordingly, the first measure against inflation is an increase of savings, and the second is to absorb by means of taxation the purchasing power born from the reduction of living. Up to now this policy has attained success.

Next, we have the price issue. This issue has to be considered on the basis of the currency and at the same time from the side of materials. As regards materials, I consider it most important to guarantee the supply of foodstuffs. I understand that the new Minister of Agriculture and Commerce will do his best for foodstuff sufficiency.

Q. What is the important point in the present financing policy?

A. It is fundamentally important to mobilize the financial power of the State and to direct it toward the war objective. As for the employment of funds and emergency period measures in concrete form, I shall listen fully to the views of the Finance Ministry officials and devise the program accordingly.

Q. What is the present condition and the future policy of the monetary policy for Greater East Asia?

A. I have been on intimate terms with Mr. Kazuo Aoki, Minister of Greater East Asiatic Affairs, since a long time ago. Mr. Aoki is a great authority on financial issues and in this sense, I should like to give as much support and assistance as possible to his aspirations in my capacity as Finance Minister. This is my fundamental idea. As for China's currency issue there are various concrete points to be considered, but the fundamental policy of mine is that I shall give assistance to the idea of Mr. Aoki, Minister of Greater East Asiatic Affairs.

CHUNGKING BLAMED FOR SORRY PLIGHT

Censors Are Criticized For 'Distress' Stories That Flooded U.S. Press

Domei

LISBON, February 19.—The American "Shanghai Evening Post" which is currently continuing its publication in the United States, today editorially pinned the responsibility on Chungking for the recent circulation of numerous stories describing the distressing plight of Chungking.

It writes that "many of our perplexed Chinese friends are wondering why newspaper articles exposing the miserable conditions in Chungking are of late appearing so thickly in the United States." The editorial continued to reiterate that Chungking is blind to the keen interest the average American holds in the stories concerning Chungking and its conditions. Therefore, they are unaware of the full significance of the recent stories affecting the American public.

The paper then went on to severely criticize the Chungking censors and pointed out that they were to blame for the rampant circulation of Chungking plight stories in the United States.

"In the opinion of the Americans," it said, "anti-Chungking sentiments in the United States were created basically from Chungking's censorship system. That system is no longer democratic. It simply aims to draw cheerful picture of its administration rather than to reveal the truth. Chungking, of course, possesses the right to censor all outgoing news, but the outside world desires more stabilized reports. When the censor goes so far as to cut the message during the course of its transmission, it cannot help but create ill-feeling among the correspondents and naturally less trust will be placed on Chungking reports. Consequently, the Americans who are keenly interested in the affairs of Chungking no longer depend on the reports of their own special correspondents, but naturally turn to other articles which expose its true conditions untouched by Chungking censors. For the Chungking people to blame the Americans for such practices is, therefore, unjustified. They brought it upon themselves."

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